IT'S RARE FOR A CLIENT TO SPECIFY THE MEETING PLACE...
...
XYZ
Please help me find my sister. I'M will be waiting at the Cat's Eye Cafe. SF
MEETING AT THE CAT'S EYE...
AND ALSO...
...

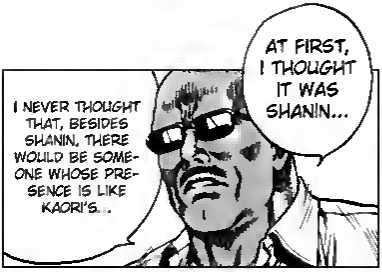
Chapter 100 Finding Little Sister

Angel Heart エンジェル・ハート

SHIN HON...
EH?
IS THAT SHANIN WAITING OUTSIDE?
...
STRANGE...?
THERE ARE OTHERS BESIDES SHANIN?
WHO IS THIS PERSON WITH THAT SPECIAL PRESENCE ...!?
...
...!!
I DON'T THINK SO! SEEMS LIKE AN OLDER LADY!
Ka-Ching

I-IT'S... KAORI!!
AH...
AH... WELCOME
AH...

KAORI —
...KAORI?
SO SHE SAID IT.
LIKE THIS...
YOUNGER SISTER...
IS MY YOUNGER SISTER... DO YOU KNOW HER!?
COFFEE HOUSE
CATCHE


AT FIRST, I THOUGHT IT WAS SHANIN...
I NEVER THOUGHT THAT, BESIDES SHANIN, THERE WOULD BE SOMEONE WHOSE PRESENCE IS LIKE KAORI'S...

NO...!
DID KAORI EVER TELL YOU ABOUT HAVING AN OLDER SISTER?

...

FORGET IT! TALK LIKE THIS, IT WON'T GET ME ANY RESULTS.
JUST LIKE THE TIME WHEN SHANIN APPEARED AT THE SHOP... SHE MAY BE...

I'D BETTER GO SEE HER...
...

ARE YOU THE ONE WHO WANTED ME TO FIND YOUR SISTER?
YOU .. YOU ARE CITY HUNTER?
カバッ
THEY... DO LOOK ALIKE!!
...AS EXPECTED..
THE SISTER YOU'RE LOOKING FOR... KAORI IS IT KAORI MAKIMURA?
MY SISTER, SHE...
REALLY IS WITH YOU...!
!!

LET ME SEE MY SISTER, KAORI!
PLEASE ...
"ABOUT KAORI'S DEATH..."
SHE REALLY IS STILL UNAWARE...
...
...IS DEAD...
...KAORI...

ABOUT 3 YEARS AGO...

WEEKLY
NEWS
MAGAZINE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
SAYURI TACHIKI
立木早百合

...

YOU'RE STILL SO YOUNG AND YOU'RE ALREADY THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF FOR A US NEW MAGAZINE!? MISS TAKICHI, THAT'S AMAZING!
WOW!

MY PARENTS GOT DIVORCED...
...

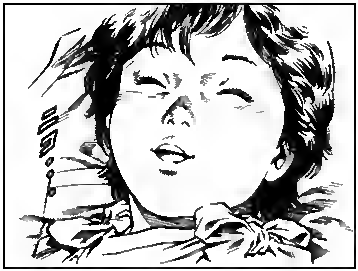
MY MOTHER TOOK ME AWAY, WHILE KAORI WAS TAKEN BY FATHER ... I DON'T THINK SHE WOULD BE ABLE TO REMEMBER IT...
WHEN I WAS 4 AND KAORI WAS 2...

...
SO THAT'S IT... YOU CAME ALL THE WAY FROM AMERICA TO LOOK FOR KAORI!
BUT I NEVER HEARD ABOUT YOU FROM KAORI!...

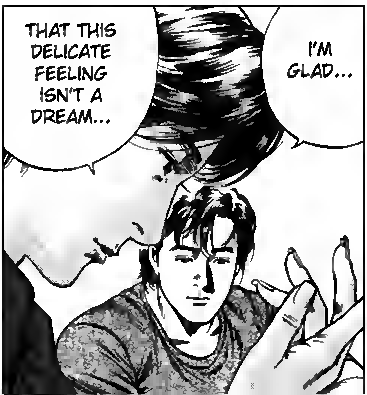
I CAN STILL RECALL HAZY MEMORIES OF MY LITTLE SISTER...
EVEN I THOUGHT .. THAT THOSE WERE DREAMS .. JUST LIKE MY MOTHER SAID...
...
AND THIS DELICATE FEELING ..
Sister
Sis~~~
KAORI...
Sis

Are you coming with us too, Sis?
Are you coming?

I ALWAYS BELIEVED THAT... UNTIL A YEAR AND A HALF AGO ...
MY MOTHER, IN HER FINAL MOMENTS, FINALLY DECIDED TO TELL ME ABOUT MY FATHER AND YOUNGER SISTER...
...



AND WARM...
THOSE HANDS ARE SOFT...


THAT THIS DELICATE FEELING ISN'T A DREAM...
I'M GLAD...

BUT... I WAS TOLD THESE WERE DREAMS. SHE LIED AND TOLD ME MY FATHER DIED AFTER I WAS BORN, SO THERE COULDN'T HAVE BEEN A LITTLE SISTER...

EVEN NOW, I CAN STILL RECALL CLEARLY...

AS EXPECTED OF A TALENTED JOURNAL-IST...
AND THEN YOU THOUGHT OF SEARCHING FOR CLUES AND ENDED UP IN JAPAN...
STILL I WAS 3 YEARS TOO LATE...
BUT...
...
...DO YOU WANT TO SEE?
KAORI'S ROOM..
...

SO YOU KEPT THE ROOM EXACTLY AS IT WAS, LIKE THERE WAS SOMEONE STILL LIVING HERE...
YES... MORE OR LESS...
I AM SORRY... MR SAEBA, THE TRUTH IS THAT I AM NOT THE ONLY ONE SAD... AND FOR DISTURBING YOUR PEACE...
...?
THERE IS SOMEONE TO COMFORT MY HEART...
FOR ME...
SFX PFF
I'M HO--ME!

MY ROOM!?
PAPA!?

PAPA! WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN MY ROOM?
YOU RASCAL! CAN'T YOU ENTER MORE QUIETLY?

YES. LET ME INTRODUCE YOU TO HER. THAT'S-
OH, WE HAVE A GUEST?

SO... YOU'RE THAT KIND OF PERSON...
!! WHAT... WHAT'S HAPPENING!? THIS FAMILIAR AURA!

EH?

AND YOU LET HER STAY IN MY LITTLE SISTER'S ROOM...!?
SO YOU HAVE... A NEW LOVER, EH...?
STOP...! STOP, SHE'S-
YOU REALLY ARE A PERVERTED WOMANIZER!
... MAMA?
KAORI...
...
AS EXPECTED OF SISTERS...
NOT ONLY ARE THEY ALIKE IN APPEARANCE, BUT ALSO...

TO BE PRECISE, KAORI'S HEART LIVES ON INSIDE THIS GIRL'S BODY!
...SHE IS KAORI'S DAUGHTER...
KAORI... MAMA?
MY LITTLE SISTER'S HEART...
KAORI'S HEART..
WAS TRANS-PLANTED INTO SHANIN!
WAS TRANSPLANTED INTO THIS GIRL'S BODY...!?
...

エンジェル・ハート

Angel Heart 10

北条司

エンジェル・ハート 10

北条司

新潮社

ISBN4-10-771139-0

C9979 ¥505E

9784107711397

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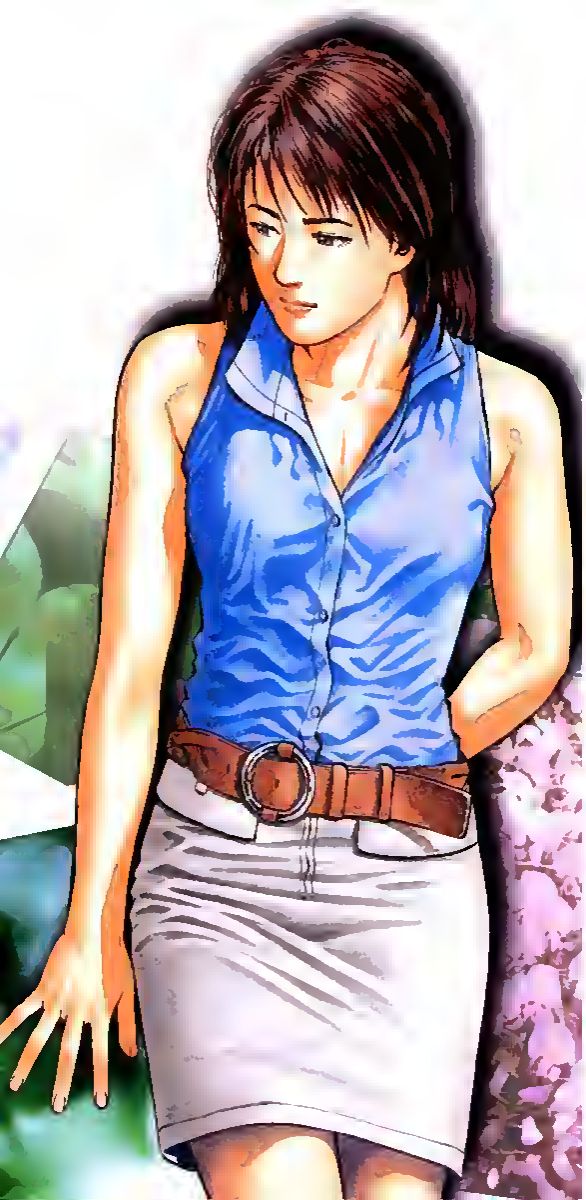
定価：本体505円（税別）

雑誌 47552-41

Angel Heart 10

C・H冴羽獠に新しい依頼が入った。
妹を捜してというその依頼主は、
待ち合せ場所にキャッツ・アイを指定。
店に現われた依頼人の正体は…!?

KAORI ♡ RYO



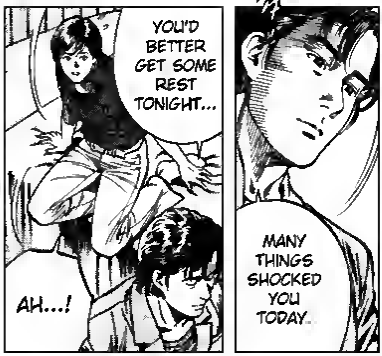
BUNCH COMICS

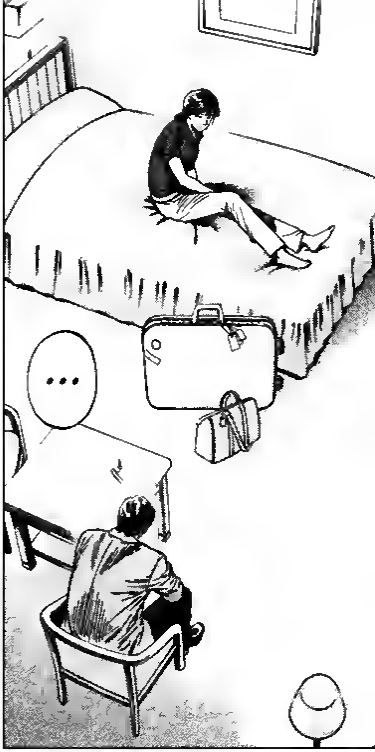
アートディレクター　福田亮一
カバーデザイン　竹内亮輔

Chapter 10 Did My Sister Live Happily?

DID YOU... LIVE HAPPILY...!?
WERE YOU REALLY HAPPY? ...KAORI!
LIVING WITH THAT MAN...
SHE IS KAORI'S DAUGHTER ...
KAORI'S DAUGHTER ...!?
ARE YOU INSIDE!?
KAORI'S HEART HAS BEEN TRANSPLANTED INTO SHANIN...
KAORI!

HA
...AH!
HAH
SFX GASP
...
YOU FAINTED IN KAORI'S ROOM
チャリ
1124
SFX CLINK
THIS PLACE IS...?
I...?
YOUR HOTEL TICKET WAS IN YOUR PURSE.
...
HOW DID YOU KNOW I WAS HERE...?
THIS IS THE HOTEL ROOM I RENTED...


YOU'D BETTER GET SOME REST TONIGHT...
AH...!
MANY THINGS SHOCKED YOU TODAY.


...

...

SFX PFF

THANK YOU... FOR BRINGING ME BACK

TOMORROW... I WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT KAORI...
ALSO...

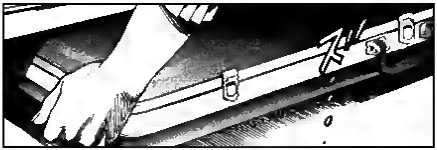
RYO-PAPA!
HURRY!! IT'S ALMOST TIME!
YEAH, YEAH... STILL, THERE'S NO NEED TO BARGE ON IN YOU COULD KNOCK...
IDIOT! W-WHAT ARE YOU IMPLY-ING!?
HEEEEEY... YOU DIDN'T DO ANYTHING TO MISS SAY-URI, DID YOU?
...
TRUST ME JUST A BIT, WON'T YOU? WAIT, IS THAT WHY YOU BARGED RIGHT IN?
OH, I TRUST YOU! BUT ONLY DURING WORK-ING HOURS!

PLEASE, WAIT ..! WHAT WERE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
HUH? OH, JUST SOMETHING FOR WORK SEE YOU!
EVERYTHING'S OKAY WE'D BETTER HURRY UP TO SET UP OUR POSITIONS!
!?
OKAY, OKAY .. SO ARE YOU PREPARED?
AH...
NOW THEN, MISS SAYURI, YOU'D BETTER GET SOME REST!
??
?
パチ!
DOES SHE HAVE TO HELP? AND AT THIS HOUR!?
YES...
WHAT...!
W-WAIT A MINUTE! WHAT KIND OF WORK ARE YOU GOING TO DO!?

OH, WHY LISTEN TO ME WHEN YOU COULD SEE FOR YOURSELF?
...
"SWEEP-ERS?"
ISN'T CITY HUNTER JUST DETECTIVE WORK? HOW CAN YOU LET A CHILD DO THIS KIND OF WORK..
IT'S A BIT DIFFERENT FROM DETEC-TIVE WORK... YOU COULD SAY WE'RE SWEEPERS..
PLEASE LET ME GO WITH YOU!!
SHE'D FIND OUT SOONER OR LATER, ANYWAY!
...
IS IT ALRIGHT, PAPA!?
...?
ALRIGHT, AH-SHAN! YOU TAKE OVER FROM HERE!

"Klang Klang"
...

HEY! WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO HERE!?
IKO
H?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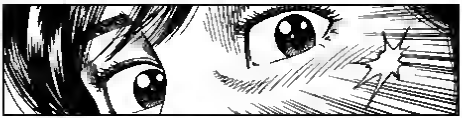
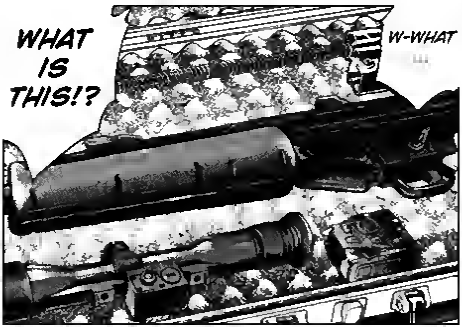



WHAT IS THIS!?
W-WHAT...

カチャ

NO MATTER HOW YOU TRY TO COVER A BIG THING LIKE THIS, WHEN YOU HIT THE STREETS IT WILL BECOME VERY CONSPICUOUS, RIGHT?
FIRST, I CONCEAL MY WEAPONS IN A SUITABLE SNIPING POSITION.

NO... I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT THAT...
YOU'VE NEVER SEEN ONE BEFORE? I HEARD THAT AMERICA IS A FREE GUN SOCIETY...

THE TARGET IS DOWN IN THE PARK...
...
...
N-NO WAY... SNIPING?
IT'S FAKE, RIGHT? I'M SURE OF IT!
THE TARGET IS ONE OF THE THREE MEN NEAR US; THE HEAVYSET ONE...
...
...
YOU'RE JOKING, RIGHT...?
YOU'RE JUST TRYING TO SCARE ME... RIGHT!?

THE BOOK SAID THE OPTIMAL RANGE* TO A TARGET WAS ABOUT 250 METERS!
AH! RIGHT... I ONCE READ ABOUT A MANUAL BY FORMER JAPANESE SNIPERS!

*OPTIMAL RANGE – RANGE AT WHICH SHOTS CAN BE FIRED ACCURATELY AND FATALLY

!?
THIS WORK IS MERE CHILD'S PLAY.
SINCE I WAS THREE YEARS OLD, I WAS TRAINED IN COMBAT SKILLS BY AN ORGANIZATION CALLED ZHENG DAO HUI IN TAIWAN...

...
IT'S TIME!
SHANIN ...

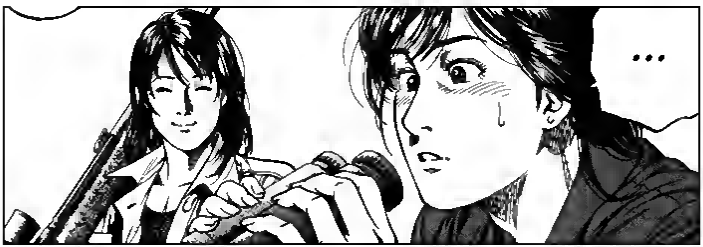
ドン
ドン
ドン
ドン
ドン
BANG

WAH... UWAAAH!
THIS IS BAD!
...!
...!!
DON'T WORRY...
...
HE'S NOT DEAD...

SFX: TWITCH

SFX: SWISH

AND THE BLOOD'S FAKE!
HE'S WEARING A BULLET-PROOF VEST.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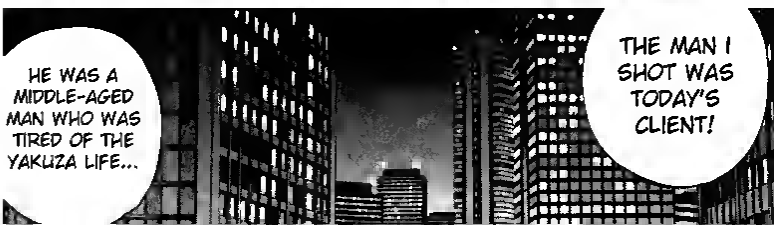
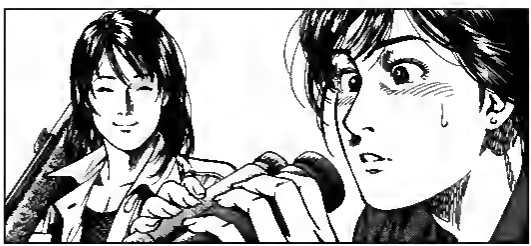

HE WAS A MIDDLE-AGED MAN WHO WAS TIRED OF THE YAKUZA LIFE...
THE MAN I SHOT WAS TODAY'S CLIENT!

THIS KIND OF THING HAPPENS A LOT IN THIS CITY. THOUGH, IN TERMS OF CITY HUNTER JOBS, THIS WAS RELATIVELY ON THE LIGHT SIDE!
BUT IT'S NOT SO EASY TO LEAVE THE ORGANIZATION, MAKE ONE WRONG MOVE AND YOU'LL BE MURDERED. THAT'S WHY HE WANTED US TO "KILL" HIM, TO ERASE HIS EXISTENCE FROM THIS CITY
...
FROM NOW ON, HE'LL LIVE A QUIET LIFE IN THE COUNTRY WITH HIS ONLY SON..
...HOW COULD YOU... LET YOUR DAUGHTER DO THIS KIND OF THING...!
WELL, MY EYES AREN'T WHAT THEY USED TO BE SO I LEAVE SNIPING TO AH-SHAN
THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT!!!
...
YOU DON'T SEND YOUR DAUGHTER TO SCHOOL, AND YOU LET HER GET INVOLVED IN YOUR WORK IN THE UNDERWORLD!
YOU MUST HAVE HAD KAORI DO THE SAME THING!
YOU FORCED HER INTO THIS WORLD!!

WHAT!?
I STARTED THIS BUSINESS IN ORDER TO PROTECT KAORI'S HAPPINESS...
CAN'T BEEN HAPPY...
ISN'T THAT RIGHT!?
...
...
THAT THIS IS THE ONLY THING I CAN DO.
NOW, IT IS BECALISE OF SHANIN...
WHAT'S THIS? FOR A SECOND... I THOUGHT I A DEEP EXPRESSION IN HIS EYES...
THAT'S NOT A VALID REASON !!

KAORI SEEMS TO BE VERY HAPPY.
BUT THAT PHOTO-GRAPH...
...
WHY...?
EVEN THOUGH SHE WAS WITH THIS KIND OF MAN...
I WILL OBSERVE EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU IN THIS CITY...
AND I WILL VERIFY WITH MY OWN EYES IF MY SISTER... AND THIS GIRL... ARE TRULY HAPPY OR NOT...
...?
I WILL GIVE YOU...
A WEEK'S TIME...



[EVIL_GENIUS]

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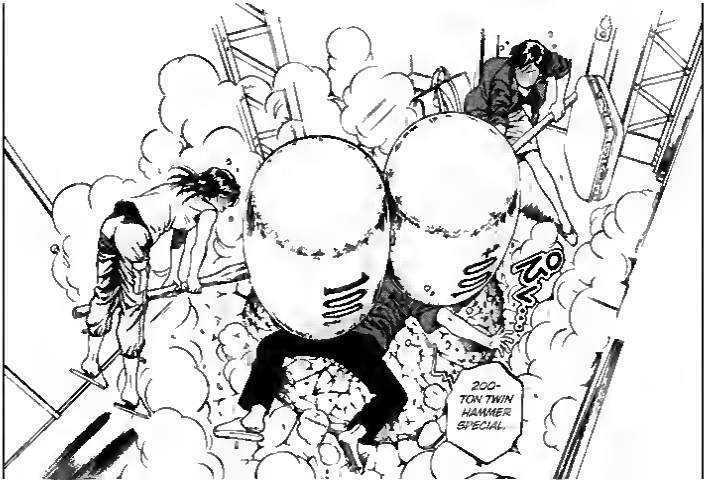
[Evil_Genius] are currently looking for Chinese/Japanese to English translators and also experienced editors. Please contact via PM Oro, Laik, or Eldo on the IRC channel or forum if you're interested to become part of [Evil_Genius]. Your help is very much appreciated.

I'VE ALREADY CANCELLED THE HOTEL ROOM!
ぽか・・・ん
SO, I'M GOING TO HAVE TO TROUBLE YOU.
FOR A WEEK, STARTING TODAY, I'M GOING TO BE PERSONALLY OBSERVING YOUR LIFESTYLE.
...
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
...
もっこり♡
SFX SWOING!

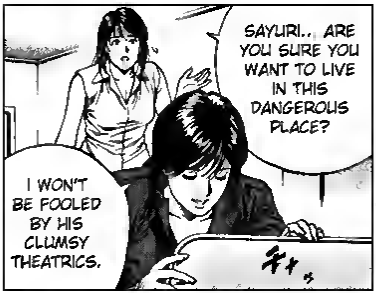
Chapter 102 The Heart's Reaction

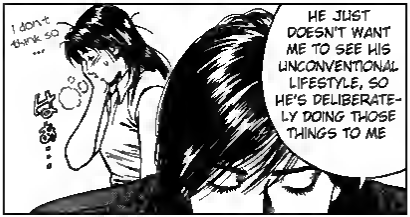


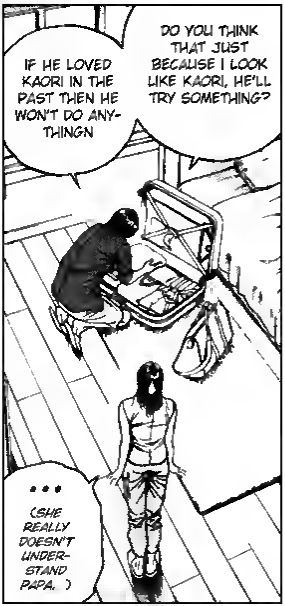
HEY, HEY! SINCE YOU'RE GOING TO BE STAYING WITH US, YOU SHOULD SLEEP IN MY ROOM!
MISS SAYURI!!
DREAM ON! THAT CANNOT BE AL-LOWED!
BUT WE'RE NOT STRANG-ERS! I EVEN HAVE TO CALL YOU BIG SIS, RIGHT?
...
HON-EST-LY!
ARGH!
WE'VE ALREADY SEEN THROUGH YOU!!
SFX: WHAM!
I'M ASHAMED TO HAVE YOU AS A FATHER. (SO PER-SISTENT!)
...
HU! HU!!
BUT, IS IT ALRIGHT GIVING ME THIS ROOM, SHANIN...?
THIS IS THE ONLY ROOM WITH A LOCK.
AND SINCE YOU'RE KAORI-MAMA'S SISTER, I'M SURE KAORI-MAMA WILL BE PLEASED!

MAMAooo
IS IT...!?

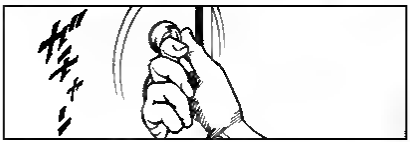
...


SAYURI.. ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO LIVE IN THIS DANGEROUS PLACE?
I WON'T BE FOOLED BY HIS CLUMSY THEATRICS.


I don't think so...
HE JUST DOESN'T WANT ME TO SEE HIS UNCONVENTIONAL LIFESTYLE, SO HE'S DELIBERATELY DOING THOSE THINGS TO ME


IF HE LOVED KAORI IN THE PAST THEN HE WON'T DO ANYTHINGN
DO YOU THINK THAT JUST BECAUSE I LOOK LIKE KAORI, HE'LL TRY SOMETHING?
...
(SHE REALLY DOESN'T UNDERSTAND PAPA.)

THANK YOU. .
I'LL... I'LL GO GET YOU SOMETHING TO DRINK!



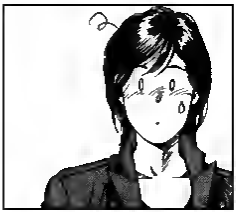
...THIS?! IS JUST ABSURD...!
I DIDN'T IMAGINE THAT I'D BE LIVING WITH A PERVERT AND A FORMER FEMME FATALE!
EVEN IF IT IS TO KNOW IF KAORI WAS HAPPY...
UNTIL THREE YEARS AGO, I WORKED AS AN ASSASSIN...
"MAMA..." IS IT ALRIGHT TO BE CALLED THAT, KAORI...?
I REALLY CAN'T ACCEPT THIS!
SHE IS KAORI'S DAUGHTER..
I DON'T KNOW IF THOSE WORDS ARE TRUE...
IF THEY ARE, THEN KAORI'S HEART WAS GIVEN TO THAT GIRL...

...
YOU... HEARD WHAT I SAID...?
OH... YOU'RE STILL HERE!?
...
...?

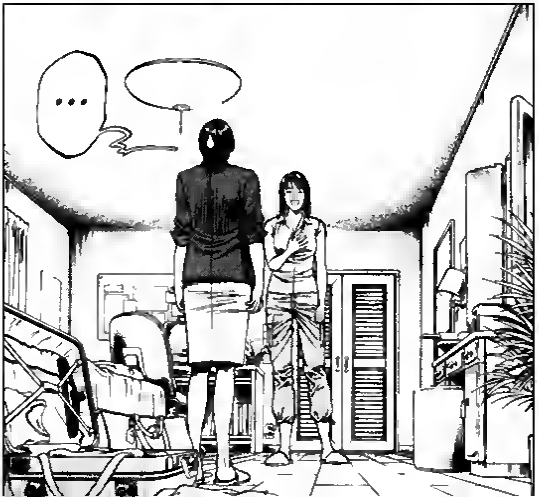
KAORI!?
...
SHANIN!
AH... WHAT IS IT?

...

HUH?
SOMETHING... WAS IT YOU STARING AT ME IN THE MIRROR A SECOND AGO?
IS THERE SOMETHING



THAT'S IT! KAORI-MAMA WAS LOOKING AT YOU!
AH! IT WAS KAORI-MAMA!

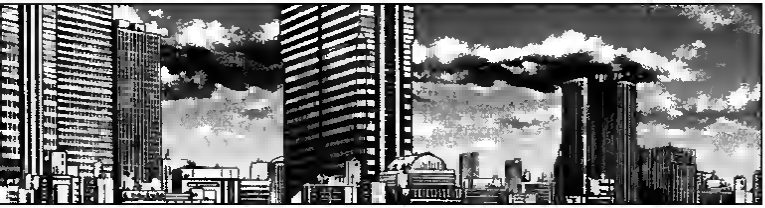

...

MAMA MUST HAVE BEEN SURPRISED BY HER SISTER'S SUDDEN APPEARANCE... THAT MUST BE IT! THAT'S WHY THERE IS NO REACTION TO MISS SAYURI!

WHO COULD BELIEVE THIS NONSENSE!?
BUT.. KAORI-MAMA'S HEART IS INSIDE MY BODY
I CAN'T BLAME YOU FOR NOT BELIEVING..
BUT...
...
HOW CAN THE HEART HAVE MEMORIES?
EVEN NOW, I CAN STILL USE THE MIRROR TO TALK TO MAMA... SHE SAID THAT I AM HER PRECIOUS DAUGHTER.
...
SEARCHING FOR.. MY FATHER, WHO I HADN'T YET MET... AND I WAS ABLE TO GET TOGETHER WITH RYO-PAPA!
I WAS REVIVED BY MAMA'S MEMORIES. I CAME OUT OF MY COMA AND MADE MY WAY TO SHINJUKU FROM TAIWAN.

SHE JUST WANTS TO KNOW YOU, SAYURI...
THE ONE LOOKING AT YOU BEFORE WASN'T ME, IT WAS KAORI-MAMA
DON'T SAY ANY MORE!
NO MATTER YOUR WORDS OR ACTIONS, IT'S TOO UNBELIEV-ABLE!
YOU GUYS ARE JUST PUSHING IT NOW!
I THINK... IT'S TOO SOON TO TELL HER ABOUT IT.
...AH...

...
AH, FORGET IT... NO MATTER WHEN YOU TELL HER, IT'S STILL PRETTY UNBELIEVABLE ..



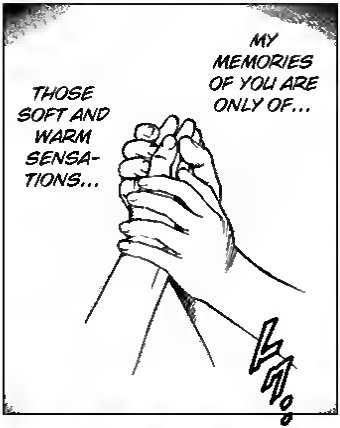
...

AT THAT SECOND... KAORI'S FACE...
IT WAS LIKE SHE WAS EXAMINING ME...

BUT...

IF THAT GIRL'S HEART HAS KAORI'S MEMORIES..?!
WHETHER IT'S A LIE OR NOT...
TO KAORI'S BEATING HEART...
I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO LISTEN...
IT'S QUITE NATURAL FOR YOU NOT TO BELIEVE..
I'M REALLY SORRY... FOR TELLING YOU THESE THINGS SO SUDDENLY...
...
...

SAY...
COULD YOU LET ME LISTEN TO YOUR HEARTBEAT?
SO THIS IS THE SOUND... OF KAORI'S HEART BEATING...

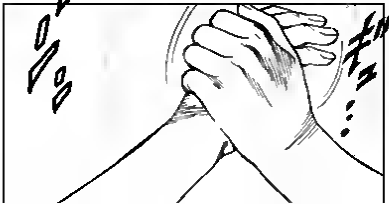

MY MEMORIES OF YOU ARE ONLY OF...
THOSE SOFT AND WARM SENSATIONS...

WHO CAN'T REMEMBER THEIR SISTER'S... HEARTBEAT?

ONLY YOUR WARMTH...
THAT'S RIGHT... I CAN ONLY REMEMBER YOUR TINY HANDS...

AS FOR YOU, YOU PROBABLY DON'T EVEN REMEMBER ME...
WITHIN MY MEMORIES, YOU ARE ONLY PART OF THAT WARMTH...

...



Sis...
Sister...?
WHAT!? WHAT WAS THAT BEFORE!?
IS IT MY IMAGINATION ...?

Sis...
KAORI! YOU REMEM-BERED ME...!!

...
WHAT AM I DOING... WHY DID I SAY SIS...?
...AH...
...AH...
KAORI...!
AH AH...

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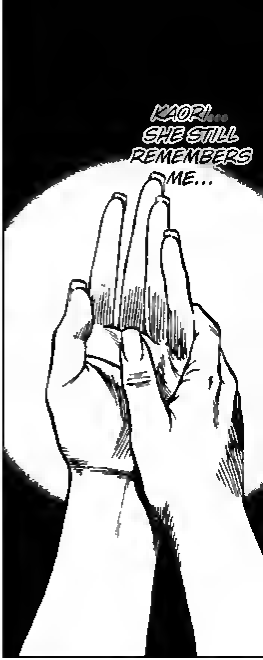
Chapter 103 Shinjuku's Angel

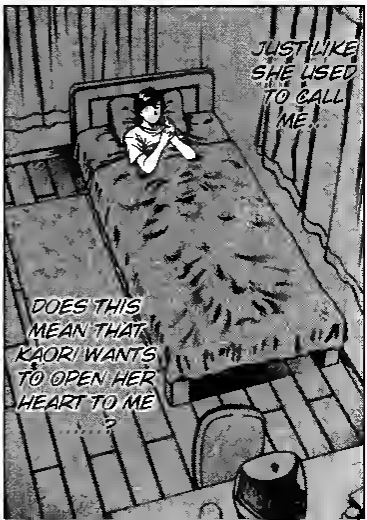

KAORI... SHE STILL REMEMBERS ME...

SIS...!

ガチャ

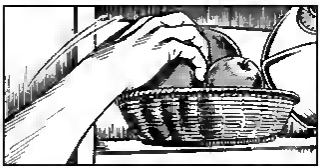
ねえ、

...


JUST LIKE SHE USED TO CALL ME.
DOES THIS MEAN THAT KAORI WANTS TO OPEN HER HEART TO ME .....?

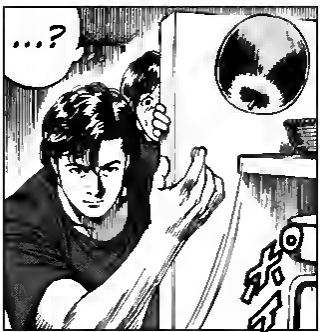
IF I HOLD HER HAND IN MINE WHILE SHE SLEEPS... WILL KAORI'S HEART SHOW ITSELF AGAIN?
...
I STILL WANT... TO KNOW MORE ABOUT KAORI'S HEART...
スヤ。。
そろーっ
...
!!
そろり
そろり

...!?



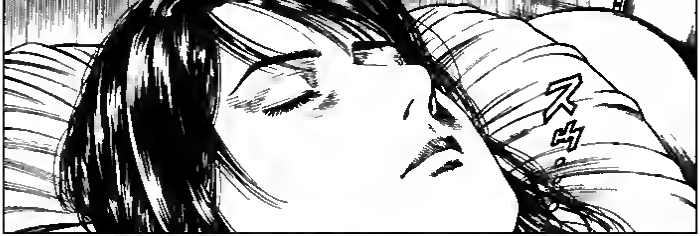
SHH!!

?...
...!?


...?
ガシッ

...!?
DON'T YOU WANT TO LIVE?

SFX: SWISH
SFX: CHOK
SFX: SNIK
SFX: THUMP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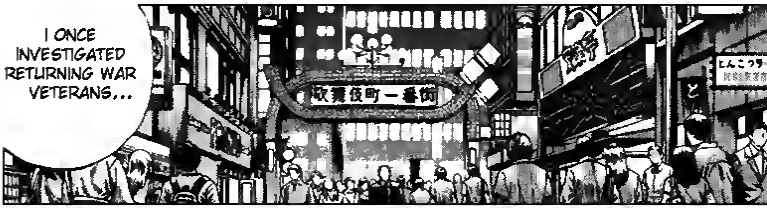
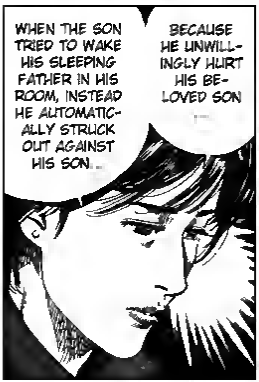
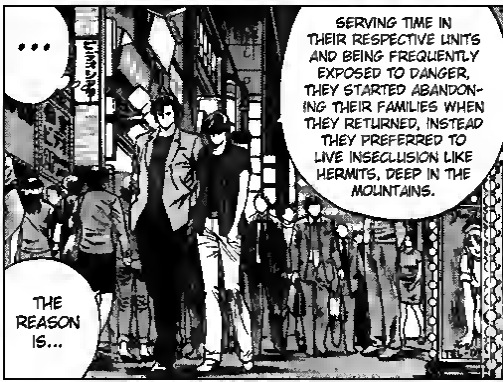
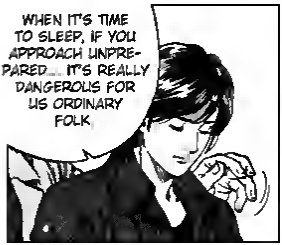

I ONCE INVESTIGATED RETURNING WAR VETERANS...
歌舞伎町一番街


WHEN THE SON TRIED TO WAKE HIS SLEEPING FATHER IN HIS ROOM, INSTEAD HE AUTOMATICALLY STRUCK OUT AGAINST HIS SON...
BECAUSE HE UNWILLINGLY HURT HIS BELOVED SON


...
SERVING TIME IN THEIR RESPECTIVE UNITS AND BEING FREQUENTLY EXPOSED TO DANGER, THEY STARTED ABANDONING THEIR FAMILIES WHEN THEY RETURNED, INSTEAD THEY PREFERRED TO LIVE INSECLUSION LIKE HERMITS, DEEP IN THE MOUNTAINS.
THE REASON IS...


WHEN IT'S TIME TO SLEEP, IF YOU APPROACH UNPREPARED... IT'S REALLY DANGEROUS FOR US ORDINARY FOLK.

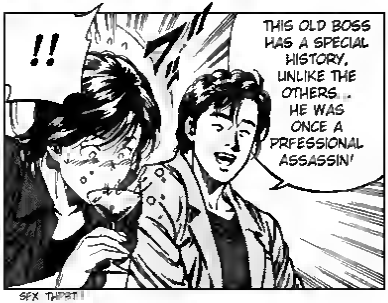
...

SHE'S BEEN TRAINED. EVEN IF HER MIND IS ASLEEP, HER BODY IS STILL CONSTANTLY BATTLE-READY.
SO, SHANIN'S LIKE THAT?

Pinch
BECAUSE WE CAN'T CONTROL WHAT OUR BODIES ARE DOING...
AWW...
IT LOOKS LIKE THERE ARE THINGS YOU CAN'T CONTROL EVEN AWAKE, RIGHT?
DIDN'T YOU WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT KAORI?
WHERE ARE YOU PLANNING TO TAKE ME THIS LATE AT NIGHT!?
IF YOU DON'T CHANGE I'M LEAVING!
AH... HA HAHA ..
Yoo-hoo~ Shin~
BAR Kyrie
WELCOME, MISTER SAEBA ..
BAR Kyrie

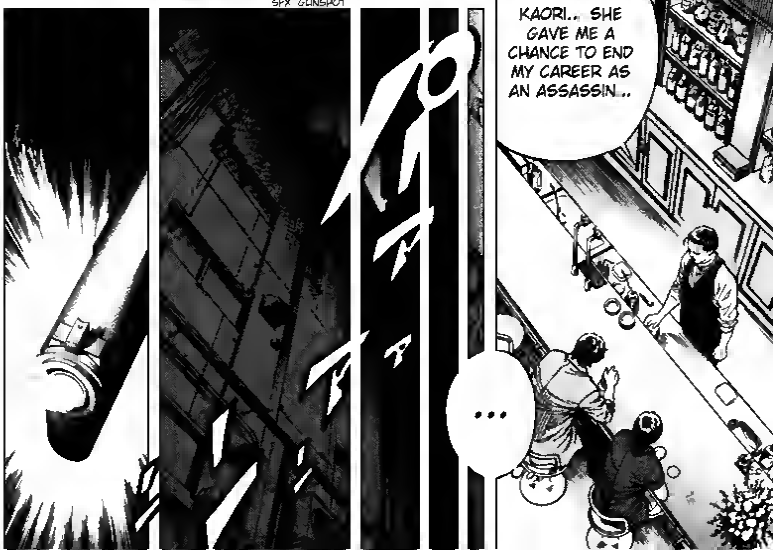
!!
HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO STAND THERE WITH THAT LOOK ON YOUR FACE? WE TALKED ABOUT THIS ON THE PHONE. THIS IS KAORI'S SISTER.
...?
THIS SEAT HAS BEEN EMPTY FOR THE PAST 3 YEARS.
SINCE IT'S YOU, I HOPE YOU CAN SIT IN THIS CHAIR.
I.. I DIDN'T EXPECT THEM TO LOOK SO MUCH ALIKE.. W-WELCOME! PLEASE, HAVE A SEAT!
...
AFTER SHE DIED, THE BOSS WOULDN'T LET ANYONE SIT THERE.
THAT WAS KAORI'S FAVORITE SEAT...

I HAVEN'T MADE ONE OF THOSE IN A LONG TIME, SO TRY IT!
IT'S PRETTY...
HERE WE HAVE A "KAORI-CHAN SPECIAL."
THAT'S RIGHT...
BOSS... YOU SAID BEFORE THAT YOU DIDN'T ALLOW ANYONE TO SIT HERE IS BECAUSE...
BECAUSE I'M VERY SAD...
Y-YEAH IT'S TOO STRONG! I'M NOT USED TO IT...
OH, CAN YOU NOT HOLD YOUR LIQUOR?
SFX COUGHING
...
KAORI KEPT HER LIQUOR... BUT AFTER DRINKING TOO MUCH, SHE'D PROCEED TO LECTURE YOU FROM DUSK TO DAWN, EVEN IN THIS HORRID PLACE...



SFX THPBT!

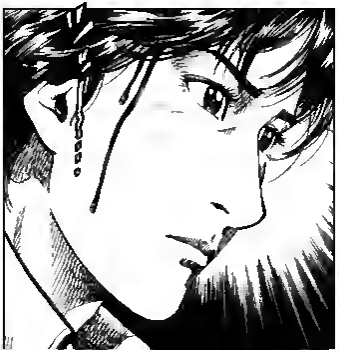
SFX GUNSHOT



I ONLY WANT TO KILL THAT GUY..

STAND ASIDE!

THAT LAST SHOT WAS JUST A WARNING. THE NEXT ONE WILL BE FATAL .. IF YOU LEAVE NOW, YOU WILL LIVE...
I WON'T!



WHAT ARE YOU DOING..?
...YOU
...
I JUST CAN'T ALLOW IT!
WHY ARE YOU HERE? YOU HAVE NO TIES TO THIS GUY!
IF I DON'T KILL HIM, I'LL BE KILLED.. IF YOU INTERFERE, I'LL KILL YOU BOTH!
IS YOUR LIFE WORTH SACRIFICING FOR A STRANGER'S?
I'M BEGGING YOU, PLEASE STOP!
SO PLEASE STOP THIS!
THIS MAN IS NOT GOING TO DIE... AND NEITHER ARE YOU!!

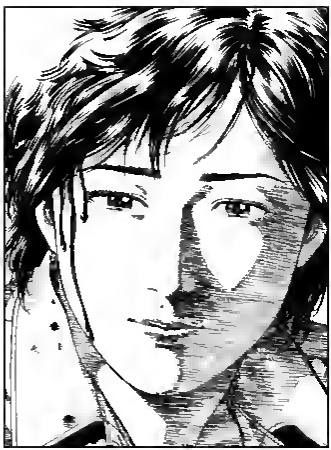
STOP KIDDING AROUND!
SFX: KA CLICK
MAN... I TAKE MY EYES OFF YOU FOR A MINUTE AND THIS IS WHAT YOU DO...
AH, RYO!
SFX: CLATTER

IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME.
...
WELL, SINCE HE DIDN'T FINISH THIS JOB, HE'LL BE KILLED SOONER OR LATER..
DON'T KILL HIM, RYO!
KAORI ...?
I ALREADY PROMISED HIM HE WON'T BE KILLED!
XYZ, RYO!!
PLEASE SAVE HIM!

PLEASE! PROMISE ME!
ARE... ARE YOU CRAZY!? HOW CAN YOU BE THIS SERIOUS TO YOUR WOULD-BE ASSASSIN?
AND THAT'S WHY YOU SHOULD ALSO PROMISE NOT TO KILL PEOPLE ANYMORE!
...
ガクッ
...HU
HU...
...

...
KAORI IS MY LIFETIME BENE-FACTOR ..
WHO THINKS THIS WAY. THERE ARE MORE OF US IN THIS CITY...
I AM NOT THE ONLY ONE...
SHE WAS AN ANGEL IN THIS CORRUPT CITY...
...
AFTER I SAW THOSE CLEAR EYES AND THAT BRIGHT SMILE, I JUST KNEW
SFX GLUG
GIVE ME ANOTHER GLASS!
...WHY DO YOU HAVE TO RISK YOUR LIFE... TO SAVE THOSE PEOPLE... TO SAVE THIS CITY...
...KAORI... YOU ARE REALLY FOOLISH...

THIS FEELING OF SECURITY...
WHAT IS THIS...?
COULD IT BE...?
AM I DRUNK...?
...
I DON'T WANT TO BE CARRIED BY THIS MAN...
BEING ENVELOPED BY THIS SENSE OF SECURITY...
KAORI... DO YOU USUALLY VIEW THE CITY LIGHTS THIS WAY...?



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Chapter 104 Miraculous Match

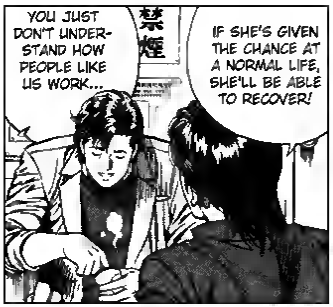
...MISS SAYURI...?
...
...
...
SFX: PAT

THIS WAY... IT'S JUST LIKE BEING WITH KAORI-MAMA...
...MAMA...
SIS...!
KAORI!

!!
S-S-S-SORRY!
ACTUALLY, I KNOCKED ON THE DOOR AND WAS PLANNING TO WAKE YOU UP...
YOUR SLEEPING IS SO MUCH LIKE KAORI-MAMA, SO THAT'S WHY I...
I'M JUST GOING TO GO AHEAD AND MAKE BREAK-FAST, NOW.
HOW CUTE...
THAT...
...

TH-THAT... MISS SAYURI...
...?
EH... CAN I CALL YOU...
AH...
SFX RUNNING FOOTSTEPS
ぴた...
SFX FOOTSTEP
カチャ
SFX CLICK
...
カァ～ン
CAN I CALL YOU... AUNT... SAYURI...?
WAIT, AH-SHAN!
THANK YOU AUNT SAYURI!
THIS CHILD IS REALLY JUST AN ORDINARY GIRL...
OF COURSE! I'D BE HAPPY IF YOU CALLED ME THAT, AH-SHAN!

WOULD YOU COME...
AND LIVE WITH ME IN NEW YORK...?
...
3F 花園診療所
ARE YOU SERIOUS?

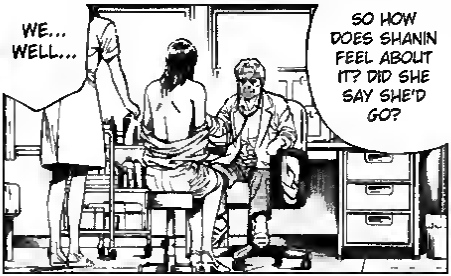

YOU JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW PEOPLE LIKE US WORK...
禁煙
IF SHE'S GIVEN THE CHANCE AT A NORMAL LIFE, SHE'LL BE ABLE TO RECOVER!

YOU SAW HOW AH-SHAN REACTS IN HER SLEEP. SHE CAN'T LIVE WITH JUST ANYBODY!
IT'S BECAUSE YOU LET HER DO CITY HUNTER WORK! THAT'S WHY SHE ISN'T ABLE TO GET RID OF THOSE HABITS!

ふぅ...

SFX SIGH

...


WE... WELL...
SO HOW DOES SHANIN FEEL ABOUT IT? DID SHE SAY SHE'D GO?

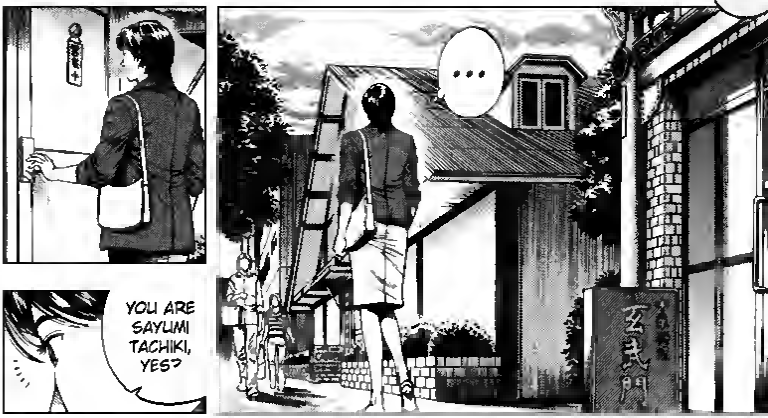
BUT HE'S NOT A HEART SPECIALIST! DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND?! AH-SHAN IS JUST LIKE ANY OTHER SICK PATIENT!
DOC'S AN EXCELLENT DOCTOR. HE'S VERY THOROUGH WITH THESE PHYSICALS.

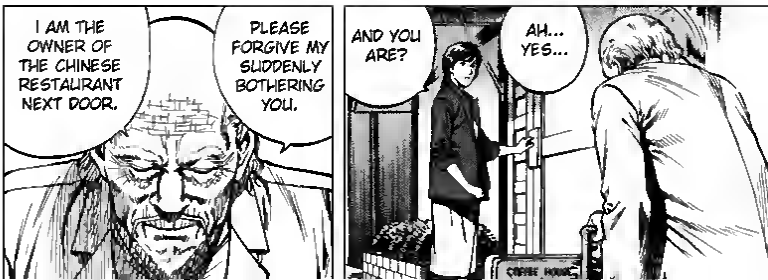
ANYWAY, WHAT'S WITH THIS RUNDOWN CLINIC? HOW CAN YOU BRING SHANIN TO A PLACE LIKE THIS!?

AND IN THE END, ISN'T THAT HOW YOU LET KAORI DIE?
TO SAY NOTHING OF THE DANGER-OUS WORK YOU MAKE HER DO!
"Scratch" "Scratch"
WE CAN'T PREDICT WHEN OR WHERE SHE MIGHT START REJECTING THE HEART! WOULD THESE PEOPLE BE ABLE TO HANDLE IT!?
BUT, I DO KNOW WHAT I'M DOING...
YOU WEREN'T THINKING ABOUT WHAT'S BEST FOR AH-SHAN! YOU'RE NOT FIT TO BE A FATHER!!
YOU KEEP SAYING THAT YOU WORKED AS CITY HUNTER TO PROTECT KAORI, BUT YOU LET HER..! YOU CAN'T PROTECT SHANIN! ALL BECAUSE OF YOUR IRRESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOR!

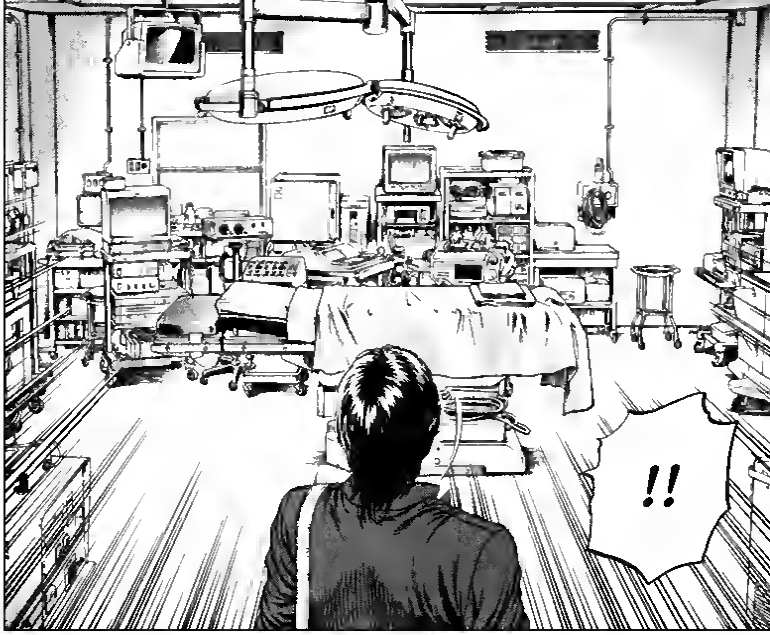
A FRIEND OF MINE IN NEW YORK IS A CARDIOLOGIST. HIS HOSPITAL HAS SOME OF THE BEST FACILITIES IN THE WORLD.
...
...
I ALREADY CALLED HIM... DR. BARRY WILL BE TAKING CARE OF AH-SHAN'S NEEDS...
I WILL PROTECT AH-SHAN!
I WILL DEFINITELY BRING HER TO NEW YORK!
MAN... ONCE SHE STARTS TALKING, SHE WON'T LISTEN... JUST LIKE KAORI...
Sigh
...

...
HOW CAN I BEAR TO SEE AH-SHAN'S SMILING FACE DISAPPEAR INTO THIS CITY...?

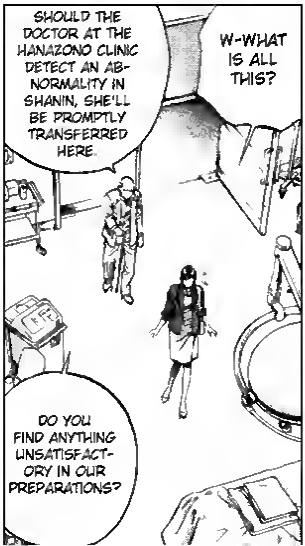

...
玄武門
YOU ARE SAYUMI TACHIKI, YES?

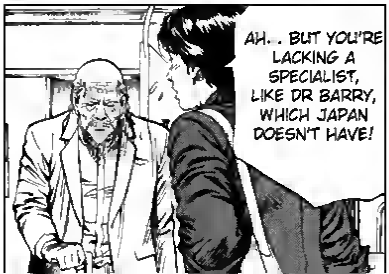

I AM THE OWNER OF THE CHINESE RESTAURANT NEXT DOOR.
PLEASE FORGIVE MY SUDDENLY BOTHERING YOU.
AND YOU ARE?
AH... YES...

...
THERE IS SOMETHING ABOUT SHANIN I'D LIKE TO TALK ABOUT AT MY RESTAURANT
...?
WE ARE KEEPING THIS A SECRET FROM SHANIN...
SAEBA MUST HAVE ASKED YOU TO STOP ME FROM BRINGING SHANIN TO NEW YORK.
REALLY.. I UNDER-STAND...
MY MASTER ENTRUSTED SHANIN TO MR SAEBA... AS FOR ME .. JUST THINK OF ME AS A GUARDIAN.
SHANIN IS THE DAUGHTER OF A VERY WEALTHY MAN, AND I SERVED AS AN ATTENDENT TO MY MASTER.
TO ME, SHE IS MY PRECIOUS SISTER'S OTHER SELF!
IT'S NOT GOING TO WORK! I CAN'T LEAVE HER WITH HIM!
...
WE HAVE ARRIVED.

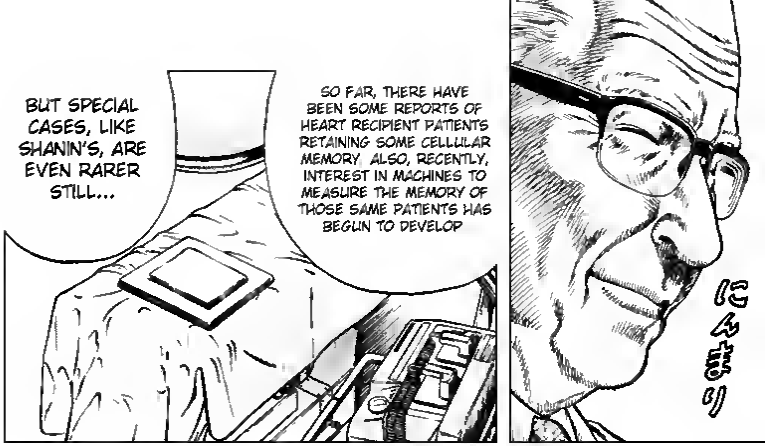

!!

SO THE PART ABOUT THE "WEALTHY MAN" WAS TRUE!


SHOULD THE DOCTOR AT THE HANAZONO CLINIC DETECT AN ABNORMALITY IN SHANIN, SHE'LL BE PROMPTLY TRANSFERRED HERE.
W-WHAT IS ALL THIS?
DO YOU FIND ANYTHING UNSATISFACTORY IN OUR PREPARATIONS?

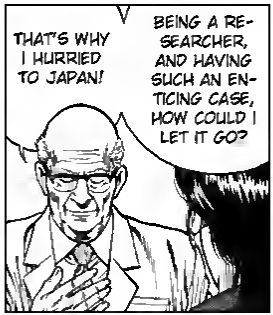

AH.. BUT YOU'RE LACKING A SPECIALIST, LIKE DR BARRY, WHICH JAPAN DOESN'T HAVE!

IT LOOKS LIKE DR BARRY IS DOING WELL FOR HIMSELF IN NEW YORK.
AH...
Y-YOU!
...
DR SHECKLEY ...
HA! AS EXPECTED OF THE EDITOR OF W.N. YOU EVEN RECOGNIZE ME.
THEN, YOU MUST KNOW THAT BARRY IS MY STAR PUPIL, RIGHT?
WHAT IS A LEADING CARDIOLOGIST LIKE YOU DOING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS!?
I GUESS YOU COULD SAY MY CURIOSITY DREW ME HERE.


BUT SPECIAL CASES, LIKE SHANIN'S, ARE EVEN RARER STILL...
SO FAR, THERE HAVE BEEN SOME REPORTS OF HEART RECIPIENT PATIENTS RETAINING SOME CELLULAR MEMORY. ALSO, RECENTLY, INTEREST IN MACHINES TO MEASURE THE MEMORY OF THOSE SAME PATIENTS HAS BEGUN TO DEVELOP
にんむ!

YOO-HOO!! I'M HERE TO GET YOU, DR SHECKLEY!
MR SAEBA!

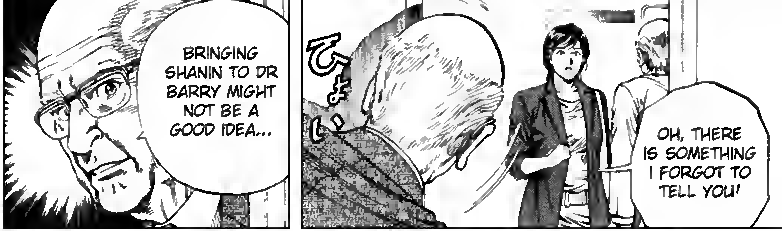
...


THAT'S WHY I HURRIED TO JAPAN!
BEING A RESEARCHER, AND HAVING SUCH AN ENTICING CASE, HOW COULD I LET IT GO?

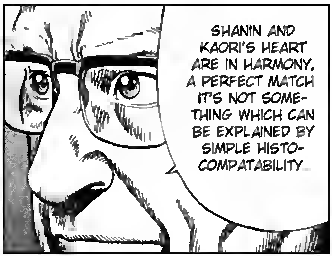
THAT'S RIGHT! HOW COULD I FORGET ABOUT LAST NIGHT!? IT'S EVERY MAN'S FANTASY!
DID YOU FORGET ABOUT THE ALLURE OF JAPAN'S NIGHT LIFE, DOC?

YES! WE HAVE TO HURRY OR WE MIGHT NOT MAKE IT!
WHAT!? IS IT TIME, ALREADY?

WHERE ELSE, BUT TO ATTEND AN ADULT FANTASY NIGHT TOGETHER?
SFX GRIN
DR SHECKLY, IS AH-SHAN IN TROUBLE !? WHERE ARE GOING IN SUCH A HURRY!?
YOU'RE WELCOME!
MR SAEBA IS MY INDESPENSIBLE NIGHT-TIME PARTNER!
...
AT THE VERY LEAST, YOU SHOULD INVITE ME TWICE! ONCE JUST ISN'T ENOUGH!
DIDN'T I TELL YOU? OLD-TIMERS LIKE YOU SHOULD TAKE IT EASY!
BUT...
AH-SHAN STAYING IN THIS KIND OF CITY... AS LONG AS SHE IS LIVING WITH THAT KIND OF MAN, DOING THOSE KINDS OF THINGS?
WELL, HOW IS IT? ARE YOU SATISFIED WITH DR SHECKLEY?
WHY WOULDN'T I BE ? I'M SATISFIED, BUT I'LL ADMIT TO SOME MISGIVINGS ABOUT HIS CHARACTER


BRINGING SHANIN TO DR BARRY MIGHT NOT BE A GOOD IDEA...
OH, THERE IS SOMETHING I FORGOT TO TELL YOU!

I BELEIVE THIS CITY ENHANCES THEIR COMPATABILITY TOGETHER AT LEAST, PSYCHOLOGICALLY SPEAKING...
BY THIS... CITY...?


SHANIN AND KAORI'S HEART ARE IN HARMONY, A PERFECT MATCH IT'S NOT SOMETHING WHICH CAN BE EXPLAINED BY SIMPLE HISTOCOMPATABILITY...

THE TWO OF THEM SHARE SUCH INTENSE FEELINGS FOR EVERYONE IN THIS CITY, ESPECIALLY FOR MR SAEBA...!
PERHAPS IT'S BECAUSE KAORI'S MEMORIES AND AH-SHAN'S FEELINGS FOR THIS CITY COINCIDE THAT WE HAVE SUCH A MIRACLE!

THE COMPATABILITY OF THE TWO.. NO, YOU COULD LIKEN IT TO STRIPPING OFF THE SOURCE OF THEIR LIVES...!
BY LEAVING THE CITY NOW...
HOW CAN THESE THINGS HAPPEN?
...
Jo.
GIVING THE TWO OF THEM A REASON TO KEEP ON LIVING!
IT'S BECAUSE OF THIS CITY... THAT'S WHAT'S SUSTAINING SHANIN AND KAORI'S HEART...
YOO-HOO!!

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EDITOR: VICISSITUDE
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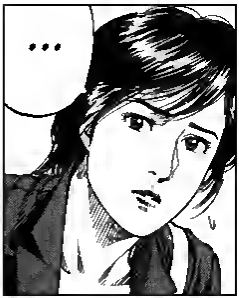
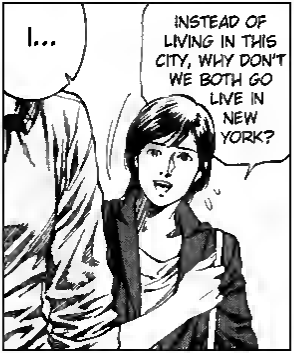
Chapter 105 City Full of Memories

YOU REALLY WANT TO CONTINUE YOUR LINE OF WORK IN THIS CITY? YOU WON'T REGRET IT?
...

HAVEN'T YOUR FEELINGS CHANGED EVEN A LITTLE BIT, AH-SHAN!?


...

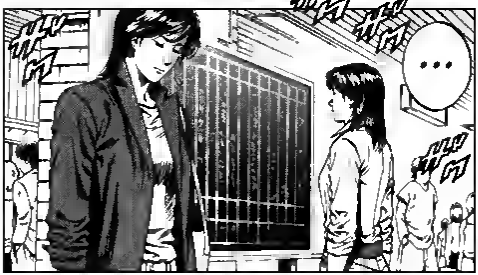
I FEEL THAT... I CAN'T LEAVE THIS CITY... ALTHOUGH I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND WHY...


I...
INSTEAD OF LIVING IN THIS CITY, WHY DON'T WE BOTH GO LIVE IN NEW YORK?

...
IT IS BECAUSE OF THIS CITY THAT SHANIN'S AND KAORI'S HEART KEEPS BEATING!
...
DR SHECK-LEY...?
SO DR SHECKLEY TOLD YOU ABOUT IT, AND YOU STARTED TO BELIEVE IT...
BEING UNABLE TO LEAVE THIS CITY..
HE SAID THAT THE CITY SUSTAINS YOU BOTH!
BUT HE TOLD ME!
...
YES, THAT'S RIGHT.
IS HE DOC'S FRIEND, THE HEART SPECIALIST?
HE DID A COUPLE OF TESTS ON ME, BUT HE NEVER MENTIONED ANYTHING LIKE THAT...
P
24
<7:00-
1h ¥5

I THINK THE ONLY REASON YOU CAN'T LIVE A NORMAL LIFE...
IS BECAUSE YOU LIVE IN THIS CITY...

MY CITY
I FIND IT HARD TO UNDERSTAND WHAT DR SHECKLEY SAID.


...

Bdum

BUT... I DO SEEM TO UNDERSTAND WHAT HE SAYS..
IF YOU LEFT THIS PLACE YOU WOULDN'T HAVE TO DO SUCH DANGEROUS WORK.

...
WHY..? HOW COULD YOU UNDERSTAND?
Papa, please come home
Kaori
BESIDES, WE HAVE NO REQUESTS TODAY SO WE'D BETTER GO BACK!
...?

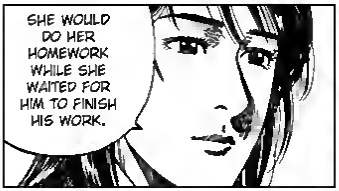
SFX HEART-BEATS

...
WHAT'S HAPPENING TO YOU? WHAT ARE YOU WRITING?
EH...?
AH-SHAN!?

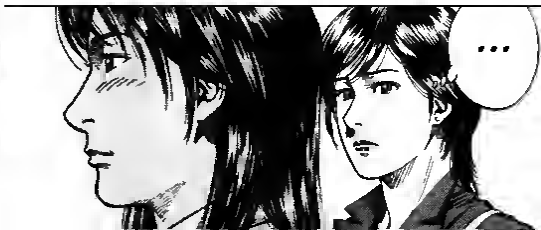
SHE COULDN'T ACCEPT HER FATHER'S DEATH, SO SHE THOUGHT THAT...
SHE WAITED HERE FOR HER PAPA, WHO NEVER CAME BACK HOME ..
KAORI-MAMA...
WHEN SHE WAS A KID...
IF SHE WAITED HERE EVERY DAY, HER PAPA WOULD EVENTUALLY COME WALKING THROUGH THE GATES
SHE'D WAIT HERE FOR HOURS UNTIL UNCLE HIDEYUKI CAME TO PICK HER UP..
AH-SHAN?
KOBAN
交番
...
HIDEYUKI MAKIMURA THAT'S HER STEP-BROTHER FROM THE FAMILY TAHT ADOPTED HER AFTER OUR FATHER DIED..
UNCLE HIDEYUKI

...
KAORI-MAMA WOULD COME HERE EVERY DAY AFTER SCHOOL.

THIS IS THE POLICE BOX WHERE UNCLE HIDEYUKI WAS FIRST STATIONED.


SHE WOULD DO HER HOMEWORK WHILE SHE WAITED FOR HIM TO FINISH HIS WORK.

THIS IS THE APARTMENT WHERE MAMA LIVED WITH HER BROTHER AND FATHER.


...

IT USED TO BE CALLED "KAEDE-SO..."
コーポ メイプル
...
THEY LIVED HERE FOR TEN YEARS, ALTHOUGH IT'S BEEN REMODELED AND LOOKS BRAND NEW NOW.
AH-SHAN!
THEIR PLACE WAS ON THE SECOND FLOOR, OVER THERE!
...
クスクス
SFX GIGGLING
ニコ...
THE CITY WHERE KAORI SPENT HER DAYS...
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO TELL ME, SHOW ME...?

EVER SINCE I STARTED LIVING IN THIS CITY, I'VE WALKED AROUND TO MANY DIFFERENT PLACES
MY FEET JUST TAKE ME TO PLACES I'VE NEVER BEEN BEFORE.
SFX GIGGLE
SINCE I GET LOST PRETTY OFTEN, I NEED RYO-PAPA TO COME GET ME ...
OVER TIME, I COULD TELL RIGHT AWAY THE PLACES WHERE KAORI-MAMA USED TO GO, THE PLACES WHERE SHE FREQUENTED!
1F
思ひ出横丁

AS IF IN A DREAM, I CAN SOMETIMES SEE HOW THINGS LOOKED WHEN MAMA LIVED HERE...
WHEN I VISIT THEM, MY HEART STARTS BEATING FAST...
I COULD FEEL THAT THE HEART.. WAS VERY HAPPY...
SFX: CHILDREN PLAYING
KAORI-MAMA HAS MANY MEMORIES GATHERED IN THIS CITY... HAPPY ONES, SAD ONES, ALL DIFFERENT KINDS...
THAT IT WAS ABLE TO RETURN TO THIS CITY...
SFX: CHILDREN RUNNING
GASP
...
AH YA!

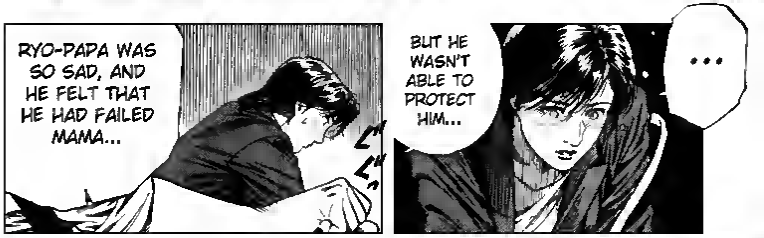
I UNDER-STAND... THIS PLACE HOLDS ALL OF KAORI'S MEMORIES... BUT AH-SHAN...
...
AND THIS IS ...
...
WHERE UNCLE HIDEYUKI WAS KILLED...

IN THIS WORLD, UNCLE HIDEYUKI COULD BE CONSIDERED HER ONLY FAMILY...

CITY HUNTER WAS SOMETHING UNCLE HIDEYUKI STARTED.

IT WAS SOMETHING TO PROTECT THIS CITY, TO HELP ITS CITIZENS TO LIVE BETTER LIVES...

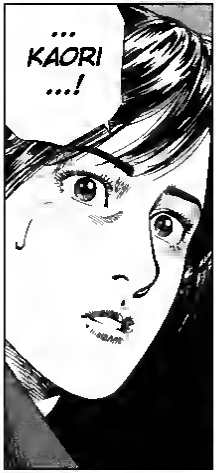
I STARTED DOING THIS IN ORDER TO PROTECT KAORI'S HAPPINESS ...
RYO-PAPA WANTED TO PROTECT HIM, SINCE UNCLE'S WORK WAS SO DANGEROUS. .
UNCLE ALWAYS GOT HURT, SO IN ORDER NOT TO MAKE KAORI-MAMA SAD, HE BECAME CITY HUNTER...


RYO-PAPA WAS SO SAD, AND HE FELT THAT HE HAD FAILED MAMA...
BUT HE WASN'T ABLE TO PROTECT HIM...
...

BUT KAORI-MAMA NEVER FELT THAT UNCLE'S DEATH WAS RYO'S FAULT...
...

!!
Instead, I strongly believed that Ryo and I should carry on my older brother's wishes...!
My brother's wishes are my wishes...
AH-SHAN ...?
In other words, staying by Ryo's side...
carrying on my brother's wishes... staying in this city full of memories...

Being in this city... means everything to me...!


...
KAORI
...!

That s why I can t leave this city .. no matter what happens..!

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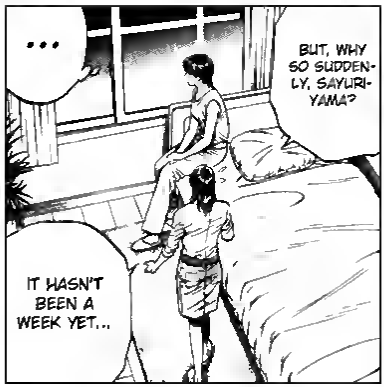
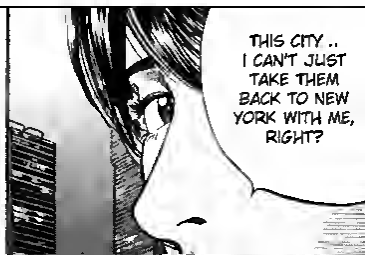
Chapter 106 A Little Wish

YOU'RE GOING BACK TO NEW YORK TOMORROW ...!


...
BUT, WHY SO SUDDENLY, SAYURI-YAMA?
IT HASN'T BEEN A WEEK YET..

...?


THIS CITY .. I CAN'T JUST TAKE THEM BACK TO NEW YORK WITH ME, RIGHT?

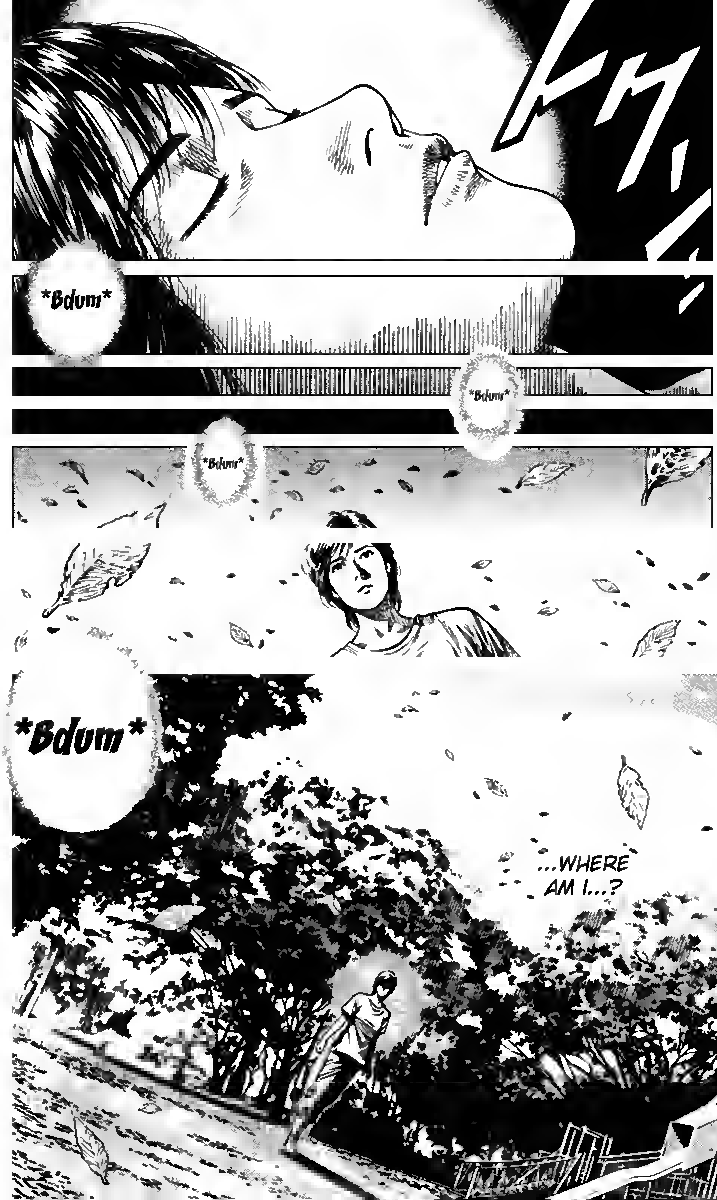
SO I HAVE NO CHOICE... BUT TO GO BACK BY MYSELF!
TONIGHT ...
SAYURI-YAMA, I-
...
WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO SLEEP IN THIS ROOM WITH ME?
THIS IS OUR LAST NIGHT TO-GETHER..
PLEASE ...

SFX SIGH

SFX GIGGLING

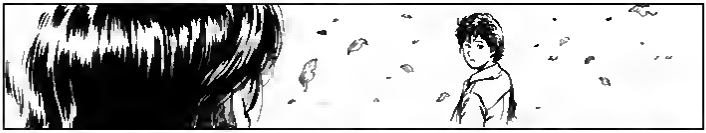
SFX PFF

Bdom
SFX HEARTBEATS


Bdum
Bdum
Bdum
Bdum
...WHERE AM I...?

SFX: CHILDREN RUNNING AND LEAVES RUSTLING
Ha Ha!
Ha Ha Ha!
AH...

KAORI!?



AH...
SFX CHILDREN PLAYING
KAORI!!
WAIT!

...KAORI.
...
...KAORI?
楓荘
Papa! Take care ～～～!!
IT USED TO BE CALLED "KAEDE-SO."

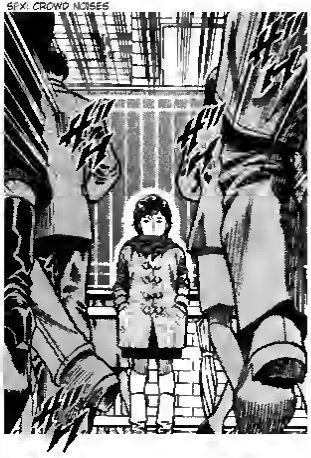
Papa~!!
Papa!
Look, Bro!
ㄱㅂ...

...
Eh, look, look!
Yahaha hahaha!
HEY, KAORI!
SFX: PAFF
SFX: WHIP
KAORI...
YOU WERE ALWAYS SMILING...

サアアアア…
YOU WERE... SURROUNDED BY YOUR KIND FAMILY...
ハロミ…
ハロミ…
ムムム…
KAORI...?
ハロミ
東口
Bdum

とっ!

ずっと待ってたんだよバカ!
SFX: CROWD NOISES



WHAT IS SHE DOING? WHAT HAPPENED...?

振りかえったー!!
まわりの
なぜか
ボクとつきあってー!
追いかけよう、連続し

SMILE DISAPPEARED FROM KAORI'S FACE!!

...
彼氏ができますように
私に行こう

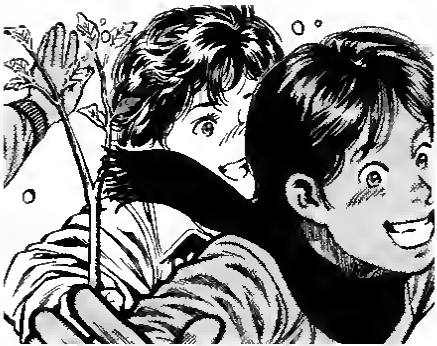
SHE WAITED EVERY DAY FOR HER FATHER WHO NEVER CAME BACK HOME. SHE COULD NEVER ACCEPT HER FATHER'S DEATH...
...
キュ...
...
KAORI...
...KA-

Papa, come home soon!

~Kaori

So he wouldn't be mad if I'm not here to pick him up... right?
KAORI...
After seeing this, Papa will know that I've been waiting for him!
Bro... do you know?
COME ON...
YEAH... I GUESS...
...?
I heard at school... that this board is magical!
If you write down your wish here, it'll come true! That's why everyone else wrote messages too...
That's why Papa is surely going to come back.
IS THAT SO? THIS BOARD IS REALLY SOMETHING, THEN!

AH...!
YES...! I'M SURE HE'LL RETURN!
Please... come back, Papa...
Eh
I'LL FIND WHERE THEY KIDNAPPED DAD TO, AND BRING HIM BACK HOME SAFELY.
DIDN'T YOUR BROTHER PROMISE YOU? AFTER I GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL, I'M GOING TO JOIN THE POLICE AND BECOME A DETECTIVE
PAPA CAN'T COME HOME NOW...
KAOR!
I PROMISE YOU...
I PROMISE...



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I DON'T WANT YOU TO BECOME A POLICE OFFICER IN THE FUTURE, EITHER....
Bdum
Bdum
Bdum

Chapter 107
Makimura's Determination
WHO!?

UH...
SFX: HEAVY BREATHS
I DON'T WANT TO BECOME A POLICE OFFICER!
HUFF...
HUFF...
HUFF...
HUFF...
DON'T YOU MEAN, "GOOD MORNING," KAORI?
OH, KAORI'S BACK!
GOOD MORNING!
I'M BACK!
YEAH...
WHY, SO COURTEOUS, MAKIMURA! THIS IS LIKE A SECOND HOME FOR LITTLE KAORI.

AH, YES...
I'M GLAD KAORI'S BEEN SMILING AGAIN, MAKIMURA...
...
YES, OUR FATHER'S DEATH WAS REALLY HARD ON HER.
AROUND THE TIME YOU STARTED WORKING HERE, SHE HAD THIS GLOOMY EXPRESSION AND DIDN'T SAY MUCH
YOUR FATHER WAS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY, AFTER ALL...
NO, IT'S BECAUSE OF YOUR KINDNESS AND DEVOTION THAT HER HEART WAS HEALED
BUT BECAUSE OF EVERYONE HERE, KAORI'S FINE NOW.
...
WHAT CHANGED YOUR MIND?
YEAH ...
AND THEN YOU SUDDENLY INSISTED ON BECOMING A POLICE OFFICER... YOU SAID YOU DIDN'T WANT TO BEFORE...
YES...

...
I DON'T PLAN TO BE A POLICE OFFICER IN THE FUTURE...
SHE WAS FIGHTING TO STAY AWAKE UNTIL JUST NOW...
...
..Fu..
Ah
...
SHE SAID SHE WANTED TO WISH HER PAPA A HAPPY BIRTHDAY..
IS THAT RIGHT...?

TOMORROW'S NO GOOD, EITHER. I'LL BE OUT THE DOOR BY THE TIME KAORI WAKES UP...

I TOLD HER TO WAIT FOR TOMORROW SINCE YOU'D BE LATE TONIGHT...

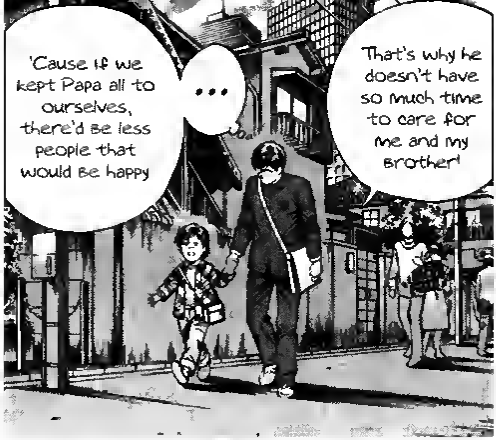
FATHER, THIS MIGHT BE DISRESPECTFUL, BUT... I DON'T WANT TO BE A POLICE OFFICER IN THE FUTURE...

...
CAN'T YOU BE BACK BEFORE KAORI WAKES UP?

...

...
RIGHT. I DON'T WANT YOU TO BE A POLICE OFFICER, EITHER.
YOU'RE VERY TALENTED.. YOU CAN CHOOSE WHATEVER PATH YOU LIKE...

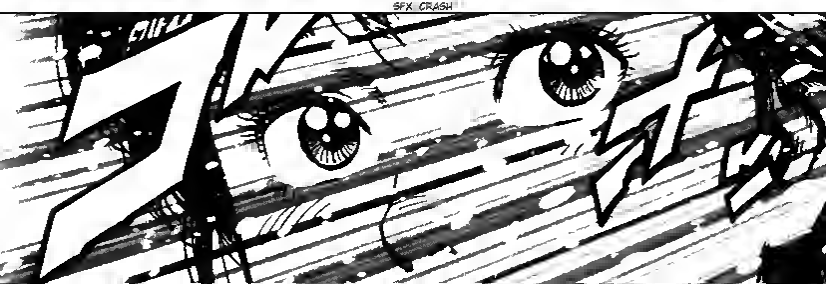
"MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE OF HIS FEELINGS OF PENANCE HE HAS BECOME MORE DETERMINED IN HIS INVESTIGATION WORK."
EVEN THOUGH IT WAS AN ACCIDENT DURING THE CHASE, KAORI'S FATHER (MY FATHER)... THOUGH I HAVE NO FEELINGS FOR HIM THAT I CAN RECOGNIZE, I WAS KILLED, A TRUTH THAT CANNOT CHANGE.
IN THIS PERSON'S HEART...
IT FEELS AS IF HE'S TRYING TO ATONE TO KAORI...
I AM SORRY... KAORI...
Papa
He's working hard for everyone's happiness!
Papa is


'Cause if we kept Papa all to ourselves, there'd be less people that would be happy
...
That's why he doesn't have so much time to care for me and my brother!

Kaori loves Papa the most!
But...

DON'T YOU FEEL LONELY BECAUSE OF THAT, KAORI?
BUT...

SFX: CRASH


ゴォ

Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
SFX RUNNING STEPS
FATHER, WHERE ARE YOU !?
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
MR MAKI IS CURRENTLY ON A KIDNAP-PING CASE...
There was a call from the police saying Papa still hasn't come back!!

THIS MORNING!!
Hoff
Hoff
RIGHT NOW, WE'RE DOING OUR BEST TO DETERMINE MR MAKI'S WHEREABOUTS.
AS SOON AS WE GOT A LEAD THIS MORNING, HE RUSHED RIGHT OUT OF THE STATION.
NOTHING TO IT! COMPARED TO TAKING THE ENTRANCE EXAM AT TODAY, MY WORK... IS RATHER EASY!
SFX: CRASH
FATHER!!!
DO YOUR BEST ON THE ENTRANCE EXAM!
YES! ...FATHER? BE MORE CAREFUL...

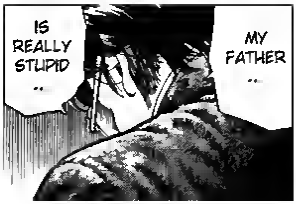
FATHER ...!!

Uwah...
FA... FATHER ...
A new BABY ...?
Uwah... Uwah...

Wah! Wah!
IS THIS MORE PRECIOUS ..?
COM-PARED TO YOUR LIFE..
HE RISKED HIS LIFE AND HELD HER CLOSE SO THAT SHE WOULDN'T FREEZE TO DEATH IN THE SNOW?
SO THE KIDNAPPER GOT HIM WHILE HE WAS RES-CUING THIS BABY?
...
Wah! Wah!
THINKING OF OTHERS EVEN UNTIL THE VERY END...
THIS BABY ...?
THEY KIDNAP-PED...

...
I...
I...

...
STUPID


IS REALLY STUPID ..
MY FATHER ..

Ya~ah!

Pat
Pat

I'M NEVER GOING TO BE A POLICE OFFICER !!

Ya ha ha!
Aha haha!
...
FATHER ...
THAT CHILD'S SMILING FACE... MY FATHER DIED PROTECTING THIS SMILE...
...
GU GU

IF IT ISN'T EASY TO GET INTO TODAI, WHY DID YOU CHOOSE TO BECOME A POLICE OFFICER?
HEY, HOW COME I'M TEACHING YOU? YOU SHOULD BE TEACHING ME!
AH... HEH HEH...
YOU ASK ME WHY...? AH, I WONDER WHY... UH...
HUH...? OH, YEAH!
SO JUST SUBSTITUTE IT HERE, AND THERE YOU HAVE IT!
AH... RIGHT! I REALLY LEARNED A LOT!
...
HOW ABOUT THIS ONE?
OH, EH...

OH?
FOR SMILES, I GUESS ...
IN ORDER TO PROTECT THAT SMILING FACE...
新宿駅東口派出所
BECAUSE I BELIEVE THAT A POLICE OFFICER'S DUTY... IS TO PROTECT EVERYONE'S SMILE...

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HEY, YOU HEARD ABOUT CITY HUNTER?
WHAT A JOKE!
XYZ
NO, IT'S TRUE! MY FRIEND'S FRIEND---
ISN'T THAT JUST A RUMOR?
ISN'T THAT THE ONE WHERE THERE'S A CHALK-BOARD IN SHIN-JUKU AND IF YOU WRITE "XYZ" ON IT, THERE'S A GUY WHO'LL ACCEPT ANY REQUEST?
SFX: SIRENS
DID SOME-THING HAPPEN? WHY ALL THIS COMMOTION SO EARLY IN THE MORNING?
...

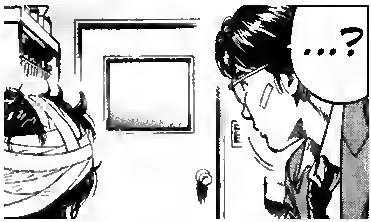
Chapter 103 City Hunter's Real Identiy

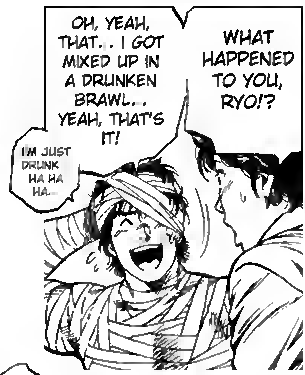
IS ALL GROWN UP AND IS REALLY BEAUTIFUL...
KAORI
AAH!
AH, I SAID IT HURTS!
DOC, PLEASE BE GENTLE!
3F 花園診療所
Tug
Wee-ooo
Wee-ooo
EH, HEH HEH ...
MR SAEBA!
YOU'RE A MASS OF BRUISES AGAIN, TODAY...

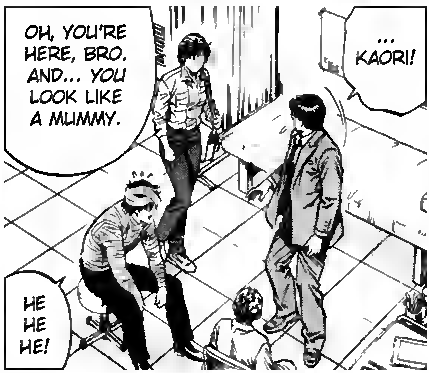
THE BOTH OF YOU SHOULD STOP BEFORE YOU GO TOO FAR!
GETTING REALLY HURT LIKE THIS AND JUST LOOK AT ALL THE COMMOTION OUTSIDE...
SFX: SIRENS
WHAT!? ARE YOU BLAMING ME!?
I SUFFERED SO MUCH FROM COVERING HIS ASS!
OF COURSE! I WOULDN'T HAVE ENDED UP THIS BAD IF I WENT IN ALONE!
IF YOU KEEP THIS UP, IT'LL BE THE END FOR YOU!
TELL IT TO THIS GUY!
YOU JUST CONCENTRATE ON MANAGING THE CLIENTS AND INFORMATION!
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU? I DO THE DIRTY WORK!
ALL YOU DO IS GET IN MY WAY!
CITY HUNTER !?
FROM NOW ON, THIS IS HOW WE DIVIDE UP THE CITY HUNTER WORK!
...

GOOD MORNING, DOCTOR!
SFX: DOOR CLOSING

BUT, RYO-
SHH!


...?

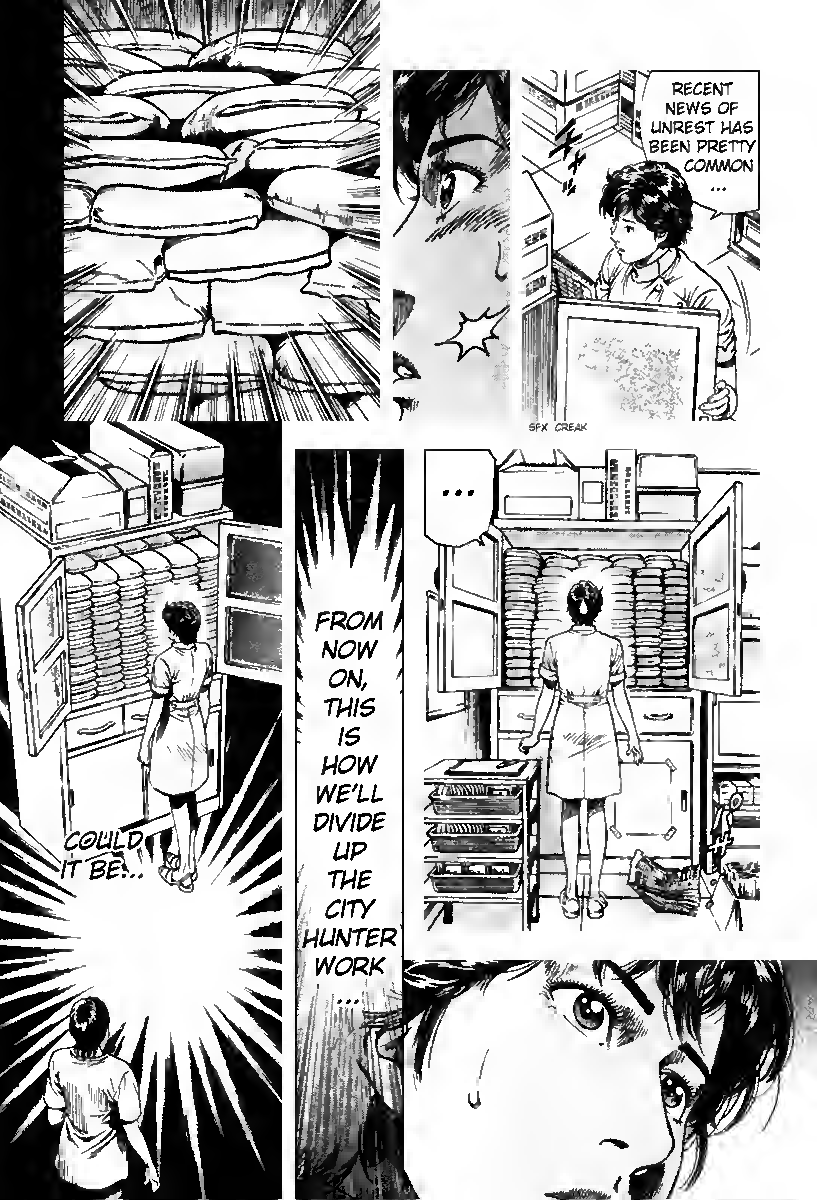

OH, YEAH, THAT... I GOT MIXED UP IN A DRUNKEN BRAWL... YEAH, THAT'S IT!
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU, RYO!?
I'M JUST DRUNK HA HA HA...


OH, YOU'RE HERE, BRO. AND... YOU LOOK LIKE A MUMMY.
... KAORI!
HE HE HE!

...
UH, DOC, COULD YOU TAKE CARE OF THAT STUFF I GAVE YOU FOR NOW?
SFX: PSST

AH, NO NO!!
SO, IS THAT THE CAUSE OF ALL OF THIS COMMOTION?

SFX: SLAM!
NOW WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT?
DEAR, OH DEAR
THANKS, DOC, YOU WERE A GREAT HELP!
WOAH, HEY, I GOTTA GO TO THAT CRIME SCENE!
AH...!
...
SOMEBODY STOLE THE SYNDICATE'S HEROIN SUPPLY...
OH, SO THAT'S WHAT ALL THE FUSS IS ABOUT OUT THERE
BUT ...
KAORI STILL DOESN'T KNOW... THAT THE TWO OF THEM ARE CITY HUNTER...
Historic Heroin Heist!
200 Kilos of Heroin Stolen from Street Gang
Street Value Estimated at $42 MILLION!


RECENT NEWS OF UNREST HAS BEEN PRETTY COMMON ...
SFX CREAK
...
FROM NOW ON, THIS IS HOW WE'LL DIVIDE UP THE CITY HUNTER WORK ...
COULD IT BE...

THE HEROIN'S GONE!?
SFX: RUNNING!
I WAS SURE IT WAS HERE WHEN I CHECKED EARLIER TONIGHT
SORRY ...
I'M SURE THE SYNDICATE CAME TO GET IT BACK!
THERE'S NO WAY THAT'D HAPPEN!
ONLY KAORI AND I GO INTO THIS MEDICINE CABINET...
BUT.. THAT WOULD MEAN...
SFX: MORE RUNNING!
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENED, WE HAVE TO GET IT BACK!!
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS!
SO, IS IT KAORI!?

WHICH ONE DO YOU MEAN!?
HOW SHOULD I KNOW!?
KAORI? OR THE HEROIN? WHERE ARE WE GOING TO FIND THEM!?

MAKI...
...RYO!
I... CAN'T... GO... ON... I'M... I'M DYING...!!
I MEAN, I AM THE HEAVILY INJURED ONE!

SFX: PANTING

THIS MORNING... THE THINGS WE DISCUSSED AT THE CLINIC... KAORI MUST HAVE OVER-HEARD IT... AH!

Huff... Huff...
GAH!

EVEN SO, WHY TAKE THE HEROIN!?
YOU MUST HAVE NOTICED... THE THINGS WE DO BEHIND KAORI'S BACK, SHE MUST HAVE KNOWN...
WOAH, NOT SO LOUD, MAKI!

...
...

HEY, HEY! WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? NOW!?
THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY ABOUT IT! THERE WON'T BE ANY REQUESTS!

...IT'S TIME.
I'M GOING TO THE BOARD TO CHECK FOR REQUESTS ...

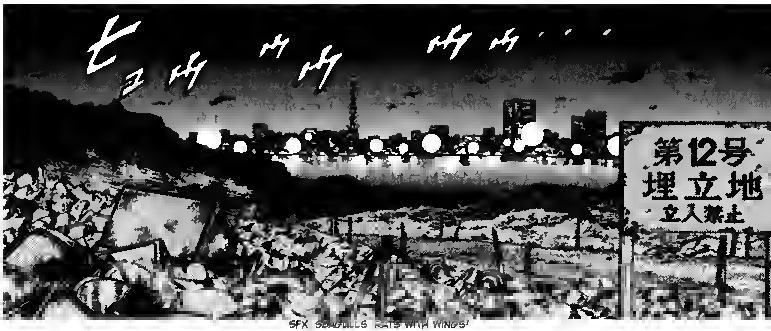
BEING PARTNERED WITH SUCH A METICULOUS FELLOW...
I CAN'T TAKE THIS ANYMORE

...
XYZ
You can't see the forest for the trees!
The stuff you're looking for is at home!
-K

DO YOU WANT TO TRY AND EXPLAIN THIS TO ME...? MR CITY HUNTERS?
SO...
...

OH. YOU TWO ARE FINALLY BACK...

SO THE CAT'S OUT OF THE BAG...
...


第12号
埋立地
立入禁止
SFX SEAGULLS RATS WITH WINGS!

WHY AM I THE ONLY ONE DOING THIS...?
...
PUNISHING THOSE WHO CAN'T BE JUDGED WITHIN THE LIMITS OF THE LAW... ESPECIALLY IN THIS CITY...
SFX SQUEEK SQUEEK

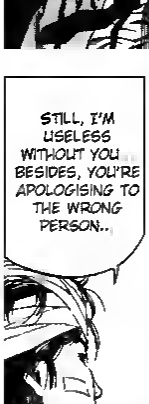
IT'S A JOB THAT SOMEONE'S GOT TO DO...
SFX THUMP

BUT WHY DOES IT HAVE TO BE MY BRO THAT TAKES CARE OF THESE THINGS!?
IF THESE DRUGS GET TO THE STREETS, A LOT OF PEOPLE WILL SUFFER AND THE SYNDICATES WILL MAKE A LOT OF MONEY.

...
KAORI ...
THIS IS A DANGEROUS JOB... WHY DOES A POLICE OFFICER LIKE YOU HAVE TO-
THIS...
THIS SEEMS LIKE A GOOD TIME...
SFX KLUNK
SFX SLOSH SLOSH
ALL YOU EVER DO IS GET IN MY WAY!! WHO GOT ME INTO THIS MESS? TELL ME!
RYO!?
JUST QUIT. I'LL BE CITY HUNTER.
SFX CLAP CLAP
...

I WILL ACCEPT YOUR SUGGESTION FROM THIS MORNING! FROM NOW ON, I'LL BE IN CHARGE OF INTELLIGENCE!
MAKI-MURA...

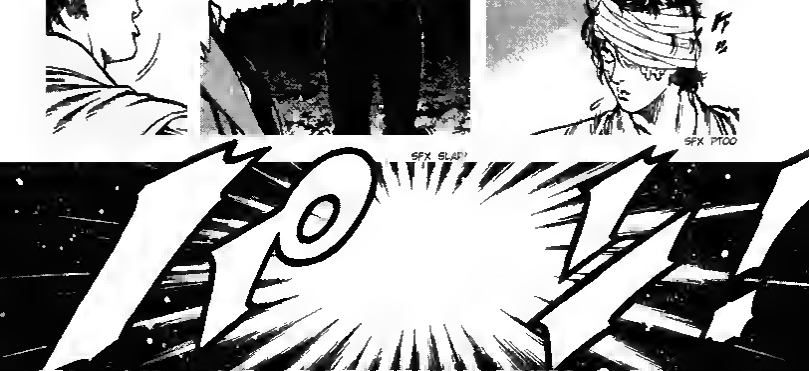
NO... NEVER!
I WILL NEVER BACK OFF!


STILL, I'M USELESS WITHOUT YOU BESIDES, YOU'RE APOLOGISING TO THE WRONG PERSON..

SORRY, RYO.. SORRY FOR PUSHING ALL THE DANGER-OUS WORK ON YOU...
...DO WHATEVER YOU WANT!

I WON'T LET YOU SAY I'M A HINDERANCE AGAIN WITHOUT MY HELP, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO OPERATE

SFX PTOO


SFX SLAP!
RYO!

SFX SLAP!

KAORI.
I SORT OF KNEW, WHEN I FIRST HEARD THE RUMORS OF CITY HUNTER...

...

I KNEW THAT, WITH YOUR OVERLY-STRONG SENSE OF JUSTICE YOU'D SOMEDAY BE WORKING OUTSIDE THE CONFINES OF THE LAW...
...THAT IT'D BE YOU, BRO...

BUT, NO MATTER WHAT I SAY, YOU WON'T LISTEN... BECAUSE THAT'S OUR ONLY FAMILY TRADITION...
RIGHT, BRO?
...
SFX CLICK
SFX FWOOSH
ALRIGHT! BURN UP INTO A BLAZING INFERNO!
BUT, JUST DON'T MAKE ME SAD, LIKE THAT TIME WITH DAD...
KAORI ...
KAORI
...

SFX WIND BLOWING
SFX SMOKE BILLOWING
HUH!? AH!!
SFX FOOMP!
WAH!! Koff! Koff!
Koff! Koff! Koff!
SHIT! WE'LL BE POISONED HEY, RYO!
ARGH!
Koff! HURRY UP! TURN AND FACE THE WIND!
THE THINGS YOU SAID TO MAKIKURA, I WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER THEM IN MY HEART, KAORI ...!
MR. SAEBA ...
THIS IS A FAIN!
Koff! Koff!
...

[EVIL_GENIUS]

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HTTP //WWW EVIL-GENIUS US

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Squeek
Skree
HUH ...?
JUST NOW SOMEONE WAS HERE ...
Squik
MR SAEBA ...?
WHAT ...!?

Chapter 109 Ryo's Request

...
THAT'S RARE...
A CLIENT WHO KNOWS ABOUT CAT'S EYE...

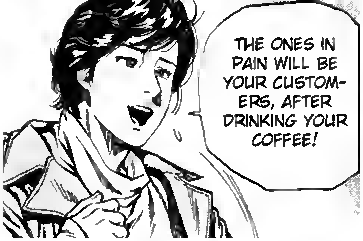
CAT'S EYE

...
XYZ
Please come!!
will be waiting at Cat's Eye coffee shop

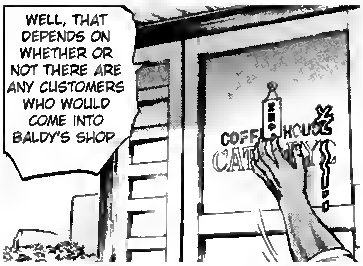
AH, WELCOME!

Ding Dong
...?

ガラッ


THE ONES IN PAIN WILL BE YOUR CUSTOMERS, AFTER DRINKING YOUR COFFEE!

RYO!? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE!?
IT'S A REAL PAIN, BUT UM! ASKED ME TO LOOK OVER THE CAFE FOR HIM.


WELL, THAT DEPENDS ON WHETHER OR NOT THERE ARE ANY CUSTOMERS WHO WOULD COME INTO BALDY'S SHOP

...
SFX: SCURRY

準備中
SFX: FLIP

EVERYTHING'S OKAY... BUT THE REST IS UP TO HIM!

...
HOW'S IT LOOK? THINK IT'LL GO WELL?

SFX: W HEW!

DO YOU THINK RYO IS ACTUALLY GOING TO PROPOSE TO KAORI, NOW?
BUT.. IS IT FOR REAL?
ドキ
IS THAT SO?
...
CONSIDERING HOW DESPERATE RYO ASKED TO BORROW THE PLACE, THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT. THIS SHOULD BE THE MOST INTERESTING DRAMA EVER TO SEE!
...
SO, RYO'S FINALLY PREPARED TO DO IT.

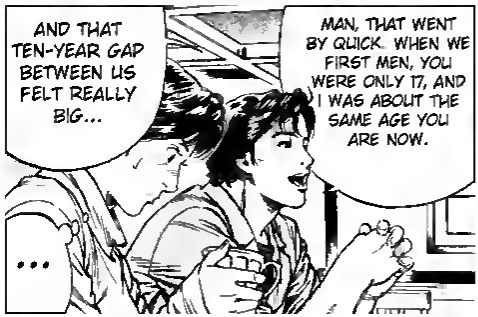
ABOUT TODAY'S REQUEST... RYO! YOU...
EH!?
SO, THE MESSAGE BOARD...
... KAORI ...
AH.. HA HA HA HA HA...!
WELL, TOO BAD! THE REQUEST IS FROM A MAN! WITH SLOPPY HANDWRITING.
YOU THOUGHT IT WAS FROM A WOMAN, SO YOU WENT AHEAD AND WAITED HERE!
SAW IT BEFORE I DID, DIDN'T YOU?
SO MUCH FOR PLAYING IT COOL...
HE'S LATE, THAT NO-GOOD LOSER...
REALLY ...
...
THOSE WORDS... SEEM TO FIT..
SLOPPY ...
HEH HEH HEH...
THEY SAY THAT YOUR WRITING CAN BETRAY YOUR CHARACTER, AND I'M SURE HE'S SOME NO-GOOD LOSER!

Aho
...
NO! J-JUST THINKING ABOUT IT! I WAS WONDERING IF THERE'S SOME LADY OUT THERE WHO'D WANT TO MARRY ME...
RYO, YOU WANT TO GET MARRIED TO SOMEONE?
M-MARRIAGE !?
...
...
Zzz...
IT TOOK HIM A WHOLE HOUR TO FINALLY GET TO THE POINT...
I'm also a real ladies man!
Ha ha ha!
REALLY.. WHAT A USELESS FOOL!
WHIST
I MEAN, I HAVE NO OFFICIAL NATIONALITY..
And I work underground
My real name is unknown

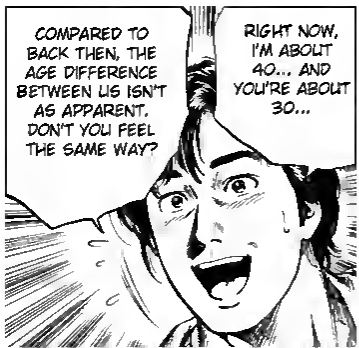
HA
...
...

WHO WOULD BE THAT DUMB...?
THERE'S NO ONE OUT THERE THAT NICE.

HA HA HA ...
Y-YEAH... MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT...


AND THAT TEN-YEAR GAP BETWEEN US FELT REALLY BIG...
...
MAN, THAT WENT BY QUICK. WHEN WE FIRST MET, YOU WERE ONLY 17, AND I WAS ABOUT THE SAME AGE YOU ARE NOW.

BY THE WAY...
YOU'RE ALMOST 30, AREN'T YOU?


COMPARED TO BACK THEN, THE AGE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN US ISN'T AS APPARENT. DON'T YOU FEEL THE SAME WAY?
RIGHT NOW, I'M ABOUT 40... AND YOU'RE ABOUT 30...

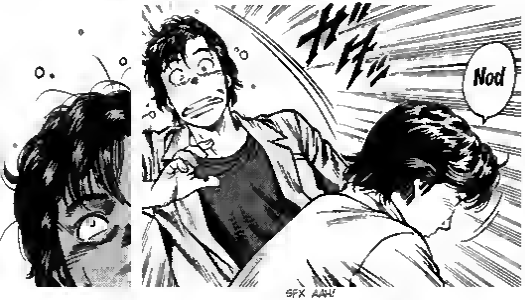
N-NO! NOT AT ALL!
SO, WHAT, ARE YOU CALLING ME AN OLD GRANDMA NOW?
SFX: GROWLING

I COULDN'T SEE YOU AS ANYTHING BUT A KID!
SFX: CLATTER

...
IF I WAS 5 YEARS YOUNGER AND YOU WERE 5 YEARS OLDER, AND WE BELIVED THOSE AGES WITH ALL OF OUR HEARTS, THEN WOULDN'T WE BE THE SAME AGE?
THAT'S WHY, NOW, YOU SEE A 17-YEAR OLD GUY AS A KID, AND NOT AS A POTENTIAL HUSBAND!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? YOU'RE ACTING WEIRD TODAY, RYO..
THERE'S NO SUCH THING!
...
REALLY!
R-REALLY?
IF YOU LOVE SOME-ONE, THE AGE DIFFERENCE DOESN'T MATTER!
Sigh...
...
SO THAT'S HOW IT IS...
SO... UH...
SO?
IS IT...

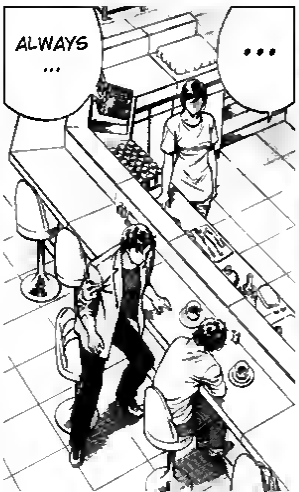
YOU'RE ALREADY 30...
BUT, YOU KNOW...
"Twitch"
DOC! WAKE UP!
ZZZ
ARGH! THIS IS GETTING ON MY NERVES! DAWDLING FOOL!
ARE YOU SAYING IT'S TOO LATE FOR ME TO GET MARRIED!?
I'M STILL 28! WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY? NOW YOU'RE REALLY PISSING ME OFF!
...
WHEN WOMEN REACH 30... THERE ARE VARIOUS THINGS-
WHY DO YOU KEEP SAYING "30 THIS," AND "30 THAT?"
...
W-WELL, I, UM... DUM DA DAHN...
SFX: SIT...
SFX: AH!
SFX: BLUSH
SO, YOU DO WANT TO GET MARRIED TO SOMEONE?
MAR-RIED...?

SFX: NERVOUS SILENCE


Nod
SFX: AAH

EH. SO... WHO IS HE. ?

ON MY BIRTH-DAYS...
HE'S ALWAYS BY MY SIDE...


ALWAYS ...
...

YOU MEAN... THERE'S SOMEONE...
YOU ALREADY LIKE..?

...

ALWAYS...
AL...WAYS...?
ALWAYS!?
SO THERE'S SOMEONE LIKE THIS AT KAORI'S SIDE?
HE'S THERE FOR ME WHEN I NEED HIM MOST...
ALWAYS...
THIS ISN'T GOOD!
Koff Koff

ALWAYS
...
...
KAORI
...
...
ALWAYS
...
WHO THE HELL IS HE!? WHY HAVEN'T YOU TOLD ME ABOUT HIM!?

SO TELL ME! WHO IS HE!?
YOU'RE RIGHT. HE'S ABSOLUTELY WORTHLESS. I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT GOES ON INSIDE HIS HEAD, EVEN THOUGH WE'RE ALWAYS TOGETHER.
A GUY LIKE THAT IS A NO-GOOD LOSER!
AFTER SEEING YOU FOR SO LONG, HE STILL LEAVES YOU HANGING!?
IT CAN'T BE.!!
...
NEED ME TO TELL YOU...?
DO YOU REALLY

IDIOT!!
X-
XYZ, KAORI!
SO WHAT IF I'M A NO-GOOD LOSER WHO'S OLDER THAN YOU!?
I HAVE NO NATIONALITY AND CAN'T OFFICIALLY GET MARRIED SO I MIGHT NOT BE QUALIFIED TO SAY THIS, BUT-
JUST SHUT UP ALREADY!

I'VE BEEN WAITING...
PLEASE ...
STAY WITH ME FOREVER... KAORI!

FOR THESE WORDS...
YOU KNOW...
YOU KNOW...
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WITH SUCH SLOPPY HAND-WRITING, RYO...
HUH!? YOU KNEW THE WHOLE TIME!?
STUPID!
Thanks for your support!
XYZ
Please come!!!
will be waiting at Cat's Eye coffee shop
You made me wait for too long!
KAORI...

[EVIL_GENIUS]

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KAORI...
WAS IT ALL A DREAM?
A DREAM?
Oh!
SOMETHING FROM MY IMAGIN-ATION...? BUT STILL
EVEN IF IT WAS A DREAM, IT WAS TOO-

Chapter 110 Devoted Man

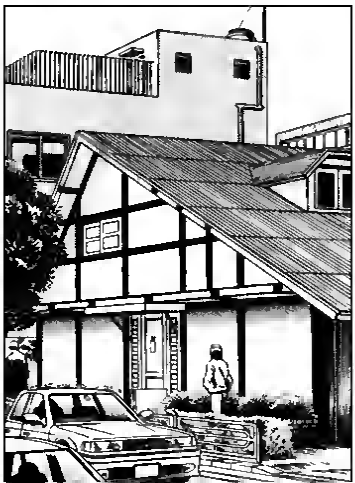
...
...KAORI...
...MAMA...
...
...
AH, AH-SHAN...
DID YOU... DREAM OF KAORI, TOO... THE SAME DREAM I HAD...?

YOU TOO, SAYURI-YAMA!? I DREAMT OF KAORI-MAMA'S PAST!
BUT THESE KINDS...
OF THINGS...
KAORI-MAMA... GAVE THIS DREAM TO US...
MIRACULOUS EVENT...
THIS KIND OF...

Bdum
SHE'S STILL ALIVE...
KAORI'S STILL ALIVE INSIDE YOUR BODY...

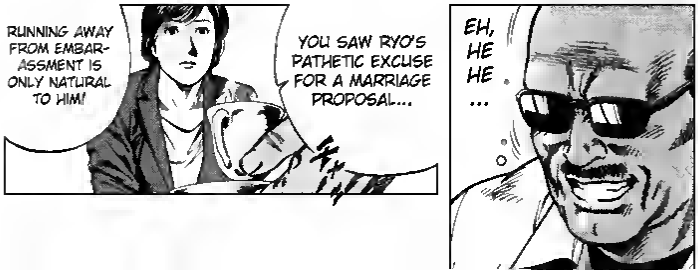
I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS!

Toc-ploc
Toc-ploc-ploc



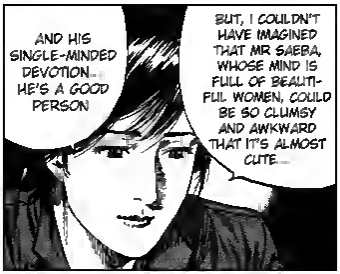
I ONLY TOOK MY EYES OFF HIM FOR A SECOND! WHERE DID RYO-PAPA RUN OFF TO..?
IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR SAYURI-YAMA'S DEPARTURE!
Toc-ploc
Toc-ploc-ploc
Hoff
Hoff

EH?
MAYBE HE RAN AWAY?
Glug glug glug


RUNNING AWAY FROM EMBARASSMENT IS ONLY NATURAL TO HIM!
YOU SAW RYO'S PATHETIC EXCUSE FOR A MARRIAGE PROPOSAL...
EH, HE HE ...

HA HA... ISN'T IT SHAMEFUL FOR MR SAEBA TO BE CALLED STUPID BY MR HAYATO?
HMPH... WHETHER OR NOT HE'S A GOOD PERSON, I CAN'T SAY. BUT HIS STUPIDITY CAN ALWAYS BE COUNTED ON

IT CAN'T BE THAT SERIOUS
HE HE
HIS COMING TO SEND YOU OFF STILL REMAINS IN QUESTION...


AND HIS SINGLE-MINDED DEVOTION... HE'S A GOOD PERSON
BUT, I COULDN'T HAVE IMAGINED THAT MR SAEBA, WHOSE MIND IS FULL OF BEAUTIFUL WOMEN, COULD BE SO CLUMSY AND AWKWARD THAT IT'S ALMOST CUTE...

ESPECIALLY IN THE UNDERWORLD, WHERE THEY DELIGHT IN TALKING ABOUT HIS FOOLISHNESS!

MAYBE WE CAN SAY HE'S AN IDIOT ...
...!
SFX THUNK

BUT THIS IS ONE THAT EVEN KAORI DIDN'T KNOW
I DON'T KNOW IF HE TOLD YOU THIS STORY ABOUT HIS PAST...

SFX PFF

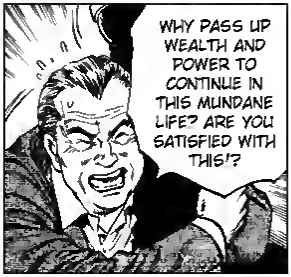
...?

HE HAD MANY CHANCES. THERE WERE MANY WHO SOUGHT OUT RYO'S TALENTS.
OF THEM, THE ONE WHO WANTED TO MEET HIM THE MOST. .
...
THE TRUTH IS, HIS COURAGE, INTUITION AND REFLEXES ARE OUTSTANDING BUT HE DOESN'T RECOGNIZE IT. THEREIN LIES HIS STUPIDITY...
SO WHY DOES A MAN LIKE HIM STAY HIDDEN IN THIS CITY? DON'T YOU FIND THAT A BIT STRANGE?
THAT WAS SOME GOOD SAKE... YOU'LL SOBER ME UP WITH THIS SILLY TALK!
Hic
...
WAS QIAN DE...
...

YOU'RE TOO GOOD TO BE STUCK IN THIS DOG-EAT-DOG WORLD.
YOU SHOULD PARTNER UP WITH US, INSTEAD!
HE HE...
SILLY ...?
I THINK A SWEEPER WHO WORKS IN THIS CITY FOR CHEAP IS EVEN SILLIER.
MY BROTHER WELCOMES YOU AS WELL YOU'LL BE IN CHARGE OF ONE OF OUR COMPANIES. WHAT DO YOU THINK? WON'T YOU RECONSIDER?
RYO: WHEE----
SFX: GIGGLING
SORRY...
BUT I'M NOT INTERESTED IN YOUR OFFER...
HA, HEY! THE CITY LOOKS PRETTY WEIRD WHEN YOU SEE IT UPSIDE-DOWN...!
IT'S DANGEROUS! GRAB MY HAND, QUICK!
SFX: SWUP
RYO!!

I HAVE NO INTENTION OF LEAVING THIS CITY...
W-WHY!? DO YOU WANT TO SPEND YOUR LIFETIME WASTING AWAY IN THIS CITY, RYO!?

YOU'RE ALMOST SO, BUT WHAT'S WITH THAT OLD GEEZER LOOK?
I'LL POSE YOU THE SAME QUESTION: ARE YOU SATISFIED?
ぴくっ
シュッ
QIAN DE GAH
SFX SWISH


WHY PASS UP WEALTH AND POWER TO CONTINUE IN THIS MUNDANE LIFE? ARE YOU SATISFIED WITH THIS!?

MUN-DANE?

AS FOR ME...
ふふぁ
SFX WOBBLE

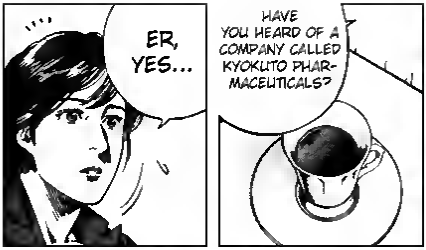
RYO HAA
ふぅ〜!

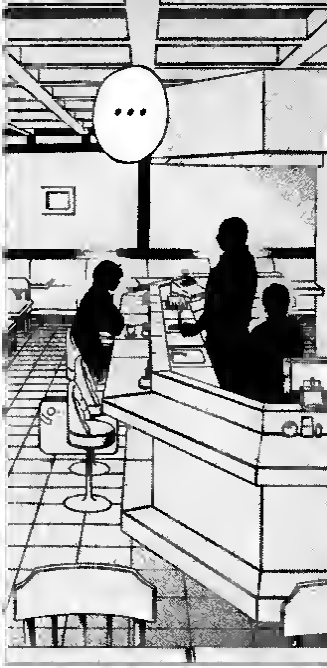
WHERE IS THIS WEIRD CONVERSATION GOING!?
I DIED IN THIS CITY, ONCE...
RYO, IT'S DANGEROUS! GET DOWN FROM THERE!
BUT THIS CITY WANTS ME TO LIVE, AND THAT'S WHY I GOT SAVED. THIS CITY ALLOWED ME TO KEEP ON LIVING.. TO LISTEN TO THIS KIND OF SOUND ..
I'M GRATEFUL TO THIS CITY...
THIS CITY... HAS MY MOST BELOVED WOMAN...
...
SFX WOAH

I'D LIKE TO STAY THIS WAY!
RYO ...!!
SFX WHUMP
SFX STOMP

YOU KNOW?
AND KEEP WATCHING HER SMILE!

Hic
YEE HEE HEE!
YOU'RE... SUCH A FOOL...
...
SOME-THING'S ON THE ROOF!
AND IT'S BECAUSE OF THAT...
THAT I LIKE YOU ...


ER, YES...
HAVE YOU HEARD OF A COMPANY CALLED KYOKUTO PHARMACEUTICALS?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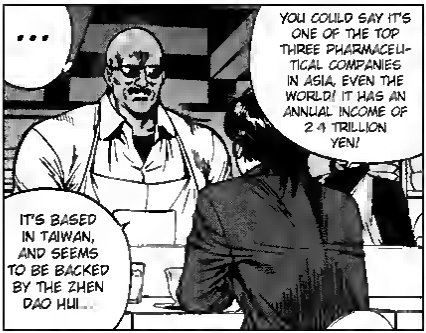
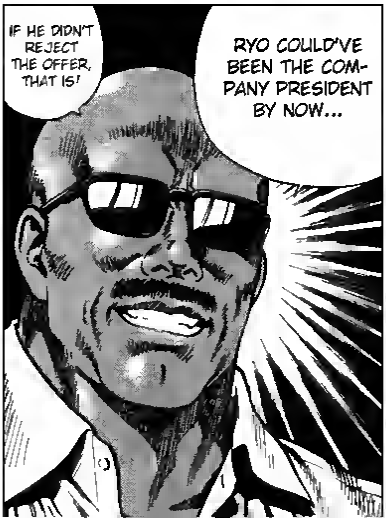

...
YOU COULD SAY IT'S ONE OF THE TOP THREE PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES IN ASIA, EVEN THE WORLD! IT HAS AN ANNUAL INCOME OF 2.4 TRILLION YEN!
IT'S BASED IN TAIWAN, AND SEEMS TO BE BACKED BY THE ZHEN DAO HUI...


IF HE DIDN'T REJECT THE OFFER, THAT IS!
RYO COULD'VE BEEN THE COMPANY PRESIDENT BY NOW...

YOU DON'T MEAN ...
SAYURI AH!

YOU'RE KIDDING ...
HE REFUSED THE POSITION AND STAYED IN THE CITY, INSTEAD...
TO BE WITH KAORI ...
...
THAT'S THE KIND OF IDIOT HE IS...
WHO TRILL-ION!?
HE REALLY IS AN IDIOT...
THAT MAN...
SORRY FOR KEEPING YOU, MISS SAYURI!!

Ta Da
MR SAEBA ...
AH...
PREPARA-TIONS FOR DEPARTURE: COMPLETE!
SFX THUD!
HURRY! BEFORE AH-SHAN FINDS US!
EXCUSE ME... MR SAEBA?
?
LET'S LEAVE FOR OUR HONEYMOON VACATION IN NEW YORK!!

M-MR SAEBA!?
HONEY-MOON HONEY-MOON HONEY-MOON!
HURRY UP! THERE'S NO TIME!
REALLY! WHAT THE HELL WERE YOU THINK-ING!?
100
...
STUPID BUFFOON !!
Angel Heart - Volume 10 END
Until next time — vicissitude

[EVIL_GENIUS]

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